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OPINION METER

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Mona Concepcion is the first female Chamorro stand-up comedienne in the world. **» PAGE 7**



Guam bomb experts defuse a 500-lb World War II bomb.

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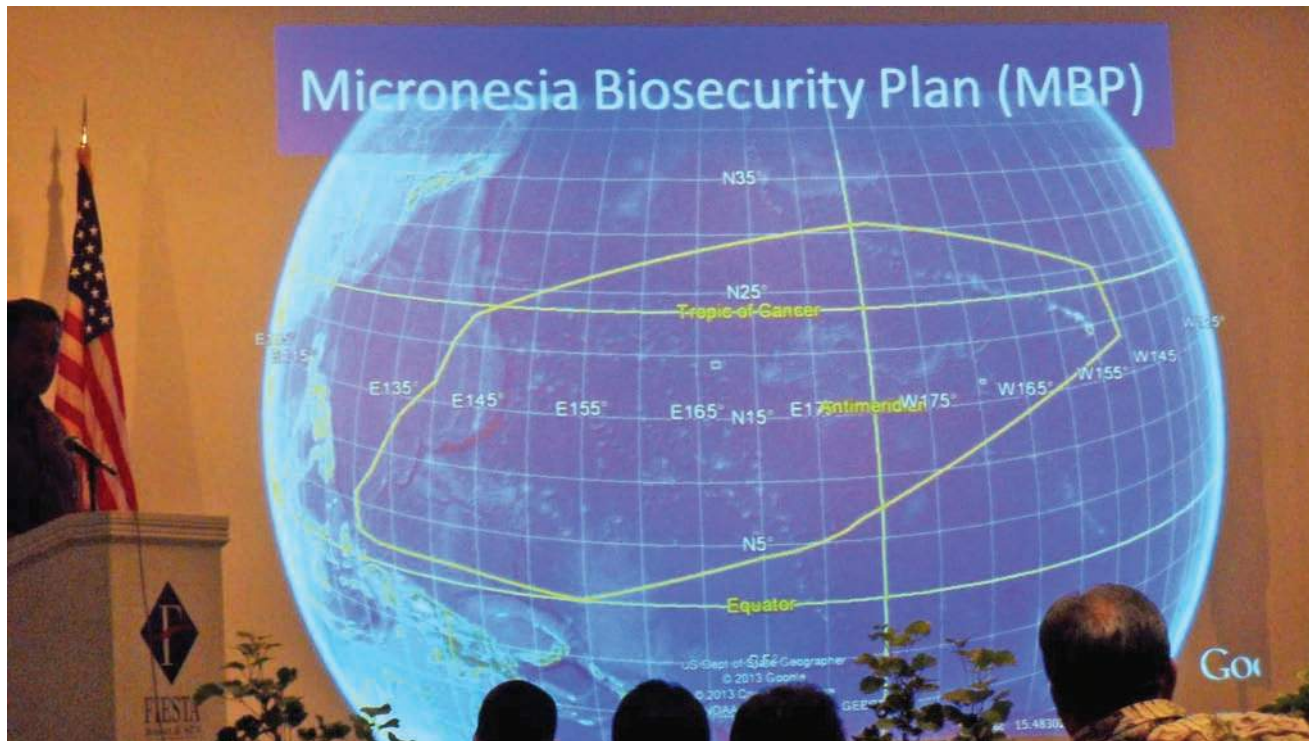


A Tinian native is recognized in Illinois for saving a man's life.

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Micronesian leaders slam human trafficking report



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Roland Quitugua, left, of the University of Guam, calls for more collaboration and support to the Micronesian Biosecurity Plan at the 19th Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit yesterday at Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan. The summit, which wraps up today, takes on regional concerns and solutions involving economic development, climate change, healthcare and human trafficking.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Federated States of Micronesia President Emanuel Mori and Marshall Islands President Christopher Loeak took issue with the U.S. State Department's 2013 Trafficking in Persons Report that listed their islands under a Tier 2 watch list for human trafficking and sex trafficking—labels that these leaders say do not reflect the real situation in their area and hurt their image and economic development.

» Presidents, governors wrap up summit today

Mori and Loeak are among the region's leaders currently on Saipan for the 19th Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit that is taking up issues of common concerns and solutions including climate change, environment, healthcare, education, and economic development.

They raised their concerns during discussions yesterday afternoon on the topic, "Preventing Human Trafficking in the Pacific Region," whose presenters were U.S. Attorney Alicia Limtiaco and Sarah Thomas-Ned-

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Chamber backs improved status for alien workers

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the largest business group in the CNMI, reiterated its support for Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's (Ind-MP) efforts to help provide improved immigration status to long-term legal aliens

» Governor reiterates support to CNMI provision in Congress bills

"because it's the right thing to do," even as the Northern Marianas Descend Corp. is asking U.S. Congress to reject any such provision in pending national immigration reform bills.

But the Chamber also supports efforts to train and employ U.S. workers, partnering with government and private

entities in making these happen.

Chamber president Alex Sablan, in his message to members, said the Chamber continues to hope that initiatives will be implemented that will truly develop training, certification and/or degree programs relevant to the CNMI business community's needs, particularly tourism.

He said there will be potentially

See CHAMBER on Page 4

Senate adopts major policy decision

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Senate has approved a major policy decision calling for the privatization of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., a move seen to pave the way for affordable power rates via alternative energy for both residential and private industries in the CNMI.

» Senators push for CUC's privatization

Authorized by Senate Vice President Victor B. Hocog (R-Rota), the joint resolution enumerates the inability of the utility agency to provide affordable and reliable power generation now and over the long haul.

"The policy decision is timely at a time when our people have been swamped and floored by a myriad of increases from utilities, health premiums, cost of basic goods as families struggle to make ends meet in dire

See SENATE on Page 4

Ex-cop Monkeya guilty

By FERGIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A Superior Court jury found former Tinian police officer Melvin Ilo Monkeya guilty yesterday of sexually abusing a then-14-year-old girl inside the Tinian police station in 2008.

Saipan Tribune learned that after deliberating for just two hours, the six jurors reached a unanimous verdict finding the 42-year-old Monkeya guilty of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree.

» Defendant faces max sentence of 30 years

The offense carries a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison.

The jurors deliberated for an hour Wednesday night and continued their deliberations yesterday.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, who presided over the trial on Tinian, set the sentencing for Jan. 9, 2014.

Monkeya was remanded into the custody of the Department of Corrections in Susupe, Saipan.

Monkeya reportedly showed no emotion. **See EX-COP on Page 4**

Local

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Mount Carmel's '12th Knight'
to take center stage at the PICBy MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A two-night show will take center stage beginning next week at the Charley's Cabaret of the Pacific Islands Club when the Mount Carmel School Theater Club treats audiences to jazz, dance, and laughter in their Christmas offering, *12th Knight*.

12th Knight is an adaptation of William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, which the club has renamed and set for performances on Dec. 11 and 12, starting at 7pm each night.

Theater Club adviser and MCS president Galvin Deleon Guerrero said that jazz, dance, and comedy will all come together in a New Orleans, Mardi Gras interpretation of Shakespeare's classic tale of bizarre love triangles and mistaken identities, all with a Christmas twist.

"I think this is our funniest show yet," said Deleon Guerrero, who is directing the production. He said the cast has done an amazing job of adapting the script in a way that retains the funny storyline and many of the original lines, while at the same time making the show relevant and understandable for all ages.

"The cast has also developed really good, comedic chemistry that highlights the ensemble nature of most of Shakespeare's comedies. When you add singing and dancing to the mix, it makes for a very humorous and entertaining show," he said.

Lead actors Andrew Manese, who plays Viola/Cesario, and Soon Kwon, who plays Duke Orsino, agreed.

As Manese put it, "The show is hilarious and is going to be one of the best plays Mount Carmel has ever put on."

"All the actors are great

and were cast in roles very similar to their personalities," she said.

As someone who is also the vice president of the Student Council and active in numerous extra-curricular activities, including Mock Trial, National Forensics League, and altar serving in the Mount Carmel Cathedral parish, Manese still makes time for the Theatre Club. *12th Knight* marks her seventh production with the club.

When asked why she continues to perform with the club, Manese said, "It's fun and I love the people. Working with kids from all grades between 2nd grade and 12th grade, you get close to them, which makes it easier to work with them. Nothing beats putting on a show and seeing the joy you bring to the audience. I love Theatre Club."

12th Knight will be Kwon's first show with the Theatre Club but he is no stranger to the stage, having performed in numerous Friends of the Arts and International Thespian Society productions. When asked about what it's been like to perform with the MCS Theatre Club, he said, "I appreciate the freedom we have as cast and crew members to change and adapt things into something that we own and love. By owning the material like this, we can act as who we are."

As for the show itself, Kwon said, "It's so funny and fun! Everyone is playing up their role so well. I can't wait for opening night!"

Admission to the show is \$5 for all ages and tickets can be purchased at Mount Carmel School's Business Office or at the door. However, due to limited seating, advance purchase of tickets is encouraged. For more information, call 234-6184.

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Electronic gaming on its way to becoming law in CNMI

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidEE_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI is now one step away from legalizing electronic gaming on Saipan but only at certain hotels. Senators approved yesterday an electronic gaming measure that Gov. Eloy S. Inos said he is poised to sign into law to help generate new revenue for retirees and other public programs. This comes days after the Senate essentially killed yet another Saipan casino gaming bill.

By a vote of 6-0, the Senate adopted yesterday a report by a joint committee from the House of Representatives and Senate, essentially passing the "compromise" bill and sending it to the governor for action.

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) himself voted "yes," despite objecting earlier to a \$2,500 per machine license fee that he considers "too low."

Besides Torres, the other senators who voted yes to the conference committee report were Sens. Victor Hocog (R-Rota), Ray Yumul (Ind-Saipan), Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), Frank Borja (Ind-Tinian), and Joaquin Borja (Ind-Tinian).

Absent from the session were Sens. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan), Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), and Frank Cruz (R-Tinian).

The governor, in an interview hours after the Senate action, said he's glad that "another revenue-generating bill" is now headed his way.

The Senate passage of the electronic gaming bill also came a day after the governor signed into law a tax amnesty measure that

will be in effect up to Jan. 1, 2014, seen to also generate additional revenue for the government.

"I realize that there's some differing views on the [electronic gaming machine] license fee and so forth and I hope that the members can get back in and address that later on. But for now, we can at least keep that

» Senate OKs conference report, governor says he will sign in

bill going and start realizing some revenue. It will give us a lot of help in trying to put together the funds necessary to aid the retirement," Inos told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview at the 19th Micronesian Chief Executives Summit.

The governor said lawmakers can later revisit provisions of the electronic gaming measure.

"The bill just adds to our revenue arsenal. I'm poised to sign that particular bill but I sure like some of the issues to be revisited later on," Inos added.

It took the Senate some time to act on the conference committee report following concerns raised by the president on the \$2,500 license fee per machine. He said even poker machines on Saipan pay a license fee of \$12,500 per machine.

But the bill's author, Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan) said a joint committee from both the Senate and House spent considerable time reaching a compromise on the license fees and other issues about the bill.

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While the license fee was brought down from \$10,000 to \$2,500, Sablan said the net gaming proceeds were increased from 10 to 15 percent. He added that the lower the license fee, the more machines that can be brought in by investors and therefore more revenue for the government.

"The bulk of the revenues would come from gaming proceeds and not the license fee," he added.

House Bill 18-51, House Draft 4, Senate Substitute 1, Conference Committee Draft 1, is now on its way to the governor for action.

The Senate-House compromise bill makes businesses engaged in electronic gaming ineligible for a qualifying certificate, a tax break program.

The compromise version also allows electronic gaming operations only at hotels or resorts with at least 100 rooms, or those attached to a golf course if they have less than 100 rooms. These are only allowed on Saipan.

Under the bill, 60 percent of the fees collected each year will be used to restore the 25-percent cut in retirees' pension; 15 percent to pay the interest owed

to defined benefit plan members who ended their membership; 15 percent to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for the senatorial district's programs; 5 percent for Rota; and 5 percent for Tinian.

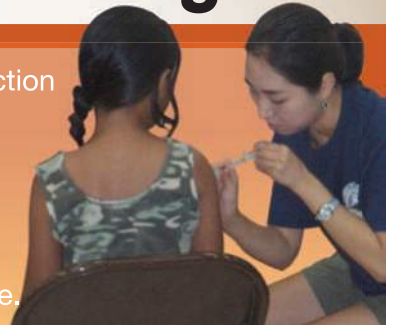
In his view, businessman Paul Zak said the Senate disapproved once again a proposal to legalize casino gaming on Saipan but nevertheless approved what he describes as a "stealth casino bill" in the form of "electronic

gaming bill."

Casino gambling is legal only on Tinian and Rota. The electronic gaming bill that is now up for the governor's action amends the definition of gambling device "to exclude electronic gaming."

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SENATE

From Page 1

bad times,” Hocog said.

“It’s time to stop the bleeding and begin rebuilding a brighter and a more promising tomorrow for our people and posterity,” he said, adding, “It’s our fiduciary duty to provide the pathway to

granting all families here the opportunity to really relish the essence of economic prosperity at home.”

“Paving the way for affordable power generation, and therefore lower rates for both electricity and water, would not only help everybody, but will ensure that investors’ needs are met,” Hocog said. “It’s a win-

win situation for everybody as we put in place the vital infrastructure to encourage the infusion of durable mega-investments into the CNMI.”

“When we successfully emplace affordable alternative energy sources, I believe other huge investments would explore making the islands their permanent home, bringing durable in-

vestments to meet the need for direly needed jobs and revenue generation for the CNMI.

“We are at the crossroads to making a major difference in bringing the livelihood of our people to the even playing field of economic prosperity and opportunities. It is also my hope that my colleagues in the House of Representatives see

the visionary components of brighter tomorrows inherent in the just adopted measure by the Senate.

“It is also my hope that the [Inos] administration would rally behind the intent of the joint resolution for it is the beginning of a realistic and brighter future for our people. It transcends just the reduction of power bills for

everyone but opens up more opportunities for lasting revenue generation that could pare down the current deficit, obligations with the Retirement Fund, and avoid saddling our children with liabilities contained under the planned pension obligation bond,” Hocog said.

The Senate adopted the joint resolution by a 6-0 vote.

EX-COP

From Page 1

tion when the court staff read the jury’s verdict.

The courtroom was packed. Many of the victim’s family members and relatives cheered and clapped when the verdict was announced.

The victim, who is now 18

years old, collapsed Tuesday morning while testifying for the government. She reportedly has a history of anxiety attacks.

The trial began on Monday.

Chief prosecutor Shelli Neal and assistant attorney general Chemere McField prosecuted the case. Attorney Jennifer Dockter served as court-appointed counsel for Monkeya.

When asked for comment,

Attorney General Joey San Nicolas thanked the jury for rendering “a just verdict” and Camacho for presiding over the trial.

“Most importantly, I thank the victims for coming forward and telling their stories, revealing the truth, and helping to hold the defendant accountable for his actions,” San Nicolas said.

Two other alleged sexual assault victims of Monkeya testified for the government on Wednesday. The Office of the Attorney General has not charged Monkeya in connection with the incidents involving the two other alleged victims.

Police detective Therese Kintoki, who testified at the trial, stated in her report that Monkeya took the girl to his office at

the Department of Public Safety Tinian building in November 2008, apparently to help her with her truant case.

Kintoki said that Monkeya then threatened the girl that she will be prosecuted and sent with other juveniles to the Northern Islands.

Saying it is a way to test if a

victim in a sexual assault case is telling the truth, Monkeya then sexually abused the girl. He then told her not to tell anyone about the incident.

The victim said that she started having anxiety attacks since then and that she faints whenever she thinks back to the incident.

LEADERS

From Page 1

edog, vice president for West-care Pacific Islands.

“I personally challenge the State Department to give us the proof, to tell us who is doing [trafficking] and where. Unfortunately, their response was, ‘this is our own report, we don’t need to share our information with you.’ If it’s going on in the Marshall Islands, we’d like to know who’s doing it so we can help stop it,” Loeak said at the summit.

Loeak said the Marshall Islands have “very strong” laws on violence against women.

He said he also informed the U.S. State Department that its report “does not help us in the international community,” adding that their international development partners whom they ask for financial assistance for programs “tend to shy away [from us] because they think we are involved in human trafficking.”

“That’s why we have to be cautious as to how we classify the region or individual countries in terms of human trafficking,” Loeak said.

Of areas in Micronesia, both the Marshall Islands and the FSM are listed by the U.S. State Department as under Tier 2 watch list.

It means the country is where “absolute number of victims of severe forms of

trafficking is very significant or is significantly increasing,” and where there is failure to provide evidence of “increasing efforts to combat severe forms of trafficking in persons from the previous year.”

Under Tier 2 watch list, the determination that a country is making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance with minimum standards was based on commitments by the country to take “additional steps over the next year.”

The U.S. State Department’s report says the Marshall Islands “is a destination country for women from East Asia subjected to sex trafficking. Foreign women are reportedly forced into prostitution in bars frequented by crew members of Chinese and other foreign fishing vessels,” among other things.

The same report says FSM “is a source and, to a limited extent, a destination country for women subjected to sex trafficking. Some reports suggest FSM women are recruited with promises of well-paying jobs in the United States and its territories, and are subsequently forced into prostitution or labor upon arrival.”

FSM has four states: Pohnpei, Yap, Chuuk, and Kosrae, whose governors and representatives are also on Saipan for the ongoing summit.

Palau was also listed under Tier 2, which means the country’s government does not fully

comply with minimum standards but is making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance with those standards.

The CNMI was also tagged as a “destination and transit location for men, women, and children subjected to forced labor and sex trafficking.”

Besides the CNMI, four other U.S. insular areas—Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands—have also been identified in the same report as either transit, destination, or source for human trafficking, forced labor, and sex trafficking.

CNMI Gov. Eloy S. Inos, current chairman of the MCES, said the U.S. Attorney’s Office may be able to communicate these concerns to the U.S. State Department.

“It does not make us look good in the international arena, not one to be proud of, but I think we can all agree on trying to curb this,” he said, adding that the best approach would be to “prevent” it.

Thomas-Nededog, the presenter at the MCES on sexual exploitation violence and human trafficking, said those involved in human trafficking look at communities that are most vulnerable, the most at-risk. These include communities with sluggish economies and those where people are less educated, making their people more vulnerable to trafficking.

“So we come together jointly to say, ‘look, if we make our-

selves less vulnerable, less attractive to these international schemers, they won’t come to us,” she said, addressing Micronesian leaders.

Limtiaco briefed Micronesian leaders about ongoing regional efforts to respond to and combat human trafficking, a form of modern-day slavery whose victims could be girls, women, boys, and men.

She said victims do not necessarily come from another country or island, as she also talked about “domestic trafficking.”

Limtiaco, in a later interview, said the comments and concerns raised at the MCES will be shared within the regional task forces and coalition on human trafficking.

In her presentation, Limtiaco said unlike drug trafficking, wherein a person sells the same drug only once and profits from it once, human trafficking involves selling victims “over and over again” and profit from them as often as they can.

The three-day Micronesian Chief Executives Summit, held at Fiesta Resort & Spa, wraps up today.

Yesterday’s presentations included those on the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, regional transportation, regional energy, regional shark sanctuary in Micronesia, healthcare initiatives, the Regional Invasive Species Council, the Micronesian biosecurity plan, climate change, and the Micronesian Challenge.

CHAMBER

From Page 1

1,200 to 1,500 additional hotel rooms in the next two to four years “and a local workforce ill-prepared to enter this market.”

“While it is a current necessity, our hotel industry is training in-house to meet their most immediate needs but this is not and should not be the case in the CNMI,” Sablan said.

The Chamber president lauded Education Commissioner Rita Sablan’s effort to implement a Tourism Academy.

He also noted similar efforts by entities such as Northern Marianas College, Workforce Investment Agency now under the CNMI Department of Labor, Northern Marianas Trades Institute, and the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands.

“On the subject of our much needed current foreign national workforce, for a decade and many more, these industrious and contributing men and women, members of our society, have nursed, built, managed, supervised, calculated, sold, trucked, delivered, engineered, prescribed, cleaned and by their sheer numbers provided an economy of scale that keeps our already costly ‘cost of living’ somewhat in check. In one way or another in every facet of our society, they have contributed to the personal economic well-being of everyone here,” Sablan said.

The Chamber president also

talked about these individuals’ lasting relationships with community members—as best friends, friends, husbands, and wives.

“For these and many more reasons, the board of directors and many in the membership continue to support Congressman Kilili’s effort to provide for a CNMI permanent resident status for these individuals because it’s the right thing to do,” he added.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, meanwhile, said he remains in support of a provision in S. 744 and H.R. 15 granting a pathway to improved status for long-term legal aliens in the CNMI.

S. 744 and H.R. 15, both pending in Congress, provide a pathway to citizenship to some 11 million undocumented aliens in America.

The Northern Marianas Descent Corp. Inc. is circulating a petition asking Congress to “reject” the inclusion in national immigration reform bills of any provision that would grant improved status to long-term legal aliens in the CNMI.

The governor reiterated that the CNMI provision in S. 744 and HR 15 does not violate the Covenant between the U.S. and the Northern Marianas.

If the transition to federal immigration is not extended beyond Dec. 31, 2014, the CNMI loses immediate access to some 12,000 foreign workers that the economy has relied upon for years, while there are still not enough U.S. workers to fill these jobs that foreign workers occupy.



Presidents and governors from around Micronesia gather for a group photo during the Wednesday opening of the 19th Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit at Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Trial in health care fraud case moved to May

U. S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona agreed yesterday to postpone the trial of Leyda I. Ada, who is facing charges for her alleged involvement in a \$1.7

million conspiracy to commit health care fraud.

Manglona granted Ada's request to move the trial from Jan. 7, 2014, to May 12, 2014, "for good cause shown."

Manglona said that resetting the trial from January to May is excludable under the Speedy Trial Act due to the case's complexity and because granting the continuance serves the ends of justice, "outweighing the best interest of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial."

formation.

Manglona said that Ada's counsel is still reviewing this information and needs more time to prepare for trial.

money laundering.

Ada's husband, Melvin Ada, has already pleaded guilty to 56 charges and will be sentenced on March 7, 2014.

The indictment alleged that from 2006 through 2011, the Ada couple misappropriated and diverted 46 CNMI Treasury checks made payable to Midwest Medical Supply Co. Inc. totaling over \$1.7 million and deposited these checks in bank accounts they controlled.

Leyda Ada used to be a sales representative for a Missouri company that supplied dialysis consumables and equipment to the Commonwealth Health Center. Melvin Ada was previously employed at CHC as a medical supply specialist. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Teen convict wants sentence lowered

A teenager who was slapped with a 20-year prison sentence for slashing the throat of a security guard during a foiled poker arcade robbery has asked the Superior Court to reduce his sentence.

Edward Deleon Guerrero, 19, through counsel assistant public defender Benjamin K. Petersburg, specifically asked the court to lift its restriction on his ability to apply for parole.

Petersburg said Deleon Guerrero was under the influence of alcohol on the night of his offense and that he has never been arrested or convicted of any crime as an adult or as a juvenile.

ed of any crime as an adult or as a juvenile.

"It follows that Edward is not a repeat offender. He is not a career criminal. He is not a person that has been offered and squandered second, third, and fourth chances by the criminal justice system before appearing before this court," Petersburg said.

Parole is not a guarantee of early release, but it does offer a convicted person serving a sentence "some measure of hope," he added.

Deleon Guerrero pleaded guilty to aggravated assault and

battery and assault with a dangerous weapon as part of a plea deal. Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho sentenced him to the maximum of 20 years, to be served without parole.

The case arose from an incident on Feb. 3, 2013, when Deleon Guerrero entered Skyway Poker at Airport Road on Saipan. He held the head of the unsuspecting security guard and slashed his neck from behind using a box cutter. As the guard tried to escape, the teenager slashed his ear and hand with the knife. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

GVB survey: Guam's beaches No. 1 attraction

GUAM (Pacific Bews Center)—An exit survey of visitors from Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Russia shows that visitors come to Guam more for its beaches than anything else.

Pleasure and travel time round out the top motivators.

Russian visitors spent the

most time on vacation—about two weeks on the average—and spend about \$1,600 a day per person.

The Guam Visitors Bureau survey shows tourists from Hong Kong spend the fewest number of days here and spend only a couple hundred dollars per person a day.

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Woodruff reports to Corrections for 3-day prison sentence

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

With the Superior Court failing to act on his new motion to suspend his prison sentence pending appeal, disbarred lawyer Stephen C. Woodruff voluntarily reported yesterday morning to the Department of Corrections in Susupe to start serving his three-day sentence for contempt of court.

Saipan Tribune learned that

Woodruff went to DOC before 8am, which was the deadline given him by Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman to report to DOC. Failing that, he would have been arrested.

On Wednesday, Woodruff filed in the Superior Court a motion for a stay of the sentence pending his appeal to the high court, seeking to reverse Wiseman's five orders, including Monday's order that directed

him to report to DOC yesterday.

In his motion, Woodruff said the absence of a stay order will wrongfully deprive him of his liberty for three days, without any meaningful remedy, in the event he prevails on appeal.

The lawyer said he has done everything reasonably required to purge any contempt.

Woodruff pointed out that Wiseman's order partially revoking his suspended sentence ac-

knowledges that he (Woodruff) at least "partially complied with said orders" and indicates that the only thing remaining to be done for him to be in full compliance is to inform his "current and pending clients" of the status of his case.

Woodruff said there is actually no evidence in the record that he has not informed his clients of the status of his ability to practice law.

In fact, he said, all the clients on the list submitted to the court

(together with his all former clients) are fully aware of the ongoing proceeding against him.

Moreover, the lawyer said, his disbarment is not final at this stage as the matter is on appeal at the CNMI Supreme Court.

Woodruff also noted that Wiseman's Nov. 22, 2013, order directed him to pay \$200 to his former client, Mr. Nakamura, through the latter's new attorney not later than Dec. 6, 2013.

Woodruff said this presents two problems: First, he will not be able to make that payment

as he is in prison on that date. Second, he does not presently have \$200 to make the payment and is unsure as to when he will have the ability to pay.

Wiseman ordered Woodruff's disbarment on June 7, 2013, for 44 violations of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct. Four months later, Wiseman found Woodruff in contempt for not complying with the mandate of Rule 15 of the Commonwealth Disciplinary Rules and Procedures and of the disbarment order.

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CUC: Non-rate fees will keep regular rates as low as possible

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. defended yesterday its proposal to increase not only its electric base rate but also the imposition of mostly new and higher non-rate fees for power, water, and wastewater customers.

CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren told *Saipan Tribune* that the non-rate fees are being recommended to keep basic rates as low as possible.

He encouraged the public to attend next week's rate hearings to be further educated on CUC petitions pending before the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission.

"The non-rate fees are being proposed by CUC in order to keep the regular rates as low as possible. These fees will not be paid by everyone,

only those customers who use a particular service," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Warren cited as the best example the fees related to the late or non-payment of bills. He said it takes time and effort—and thus costs money—to determine who has not paid their bills on time, send out delinquency notices, disconnect service, and reconnect service.

Under CUC's "non-rate fees" petition, there are two classifications on the power side: administrative fees and electric fees.

Under the proposed non-rate fees for electric, customers will be charged 10 percent of their past due as late charges. This is higher than the existing late charge of only 1 percent of the past due. The inspection fee will also increase from \$30 to \$90, as well as reconnection fee (\$60 for nonresidential

meter and \$200 for reconnection at pole in nonresidential), among other proposals.

"Is it right for the customers who pay their bills on time to absorb these costs? Or is it more fair for the customers who are late and/or disconnected to pay for the actual costs they have created?" he asked, adding that the same goes for the various inspections, installations, and other services used by a very small portion of CUC customers.

The non-rate fee petition also endorses separate fee schedule for water and wastewater that, if approved, will take effect next month.

Among the new proposed rates for water is the imposition of a \$90 inspection fee; imposition of meter test for water, \$95; disconnection fee, \$45; and unauthorized connection fee, \$550; among others. Like pow-

er and wastewater customers, late charges will be 10 percent of the past due. Certain fees are also recommended when used by customers, similar to the amount proposed in the electric side.

New CPUC

The CPUC is scheduled to tackle at its upcoming hearings several items endorsed by CUC. These include the \$4.93 million increase in electric base rates to fund revenue requirements such as the needed \$1.2 million payment due to the Commonwealth Development Authority and the

\$1.4 million required for the annual expenses related to the independent power producer on Tinian, the Telesource CNMI.

Also on the CPUC table for action are the proposed revision of residential customer rate blocks, proposed amendment to the electric lifeline rate, the recommended establishment of a standby charge for large electric customers, and the proposed interim delegation of authority to CUC regarding monthly LEAC (levelized energy adjustment clause) adjustment. Last is the proposed new "non-rate" fees (administrative and electric) for CUC customers.

Since the dissolution of the old CPUC in 2012, it is only

this year that a CPUC will resume its function.

Warren told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that he had the opportunity to meet with the new members of the CPUC and looks forward to working with them.

"I've had the opportunity to meet with them only briefly on a couple of occasions. During those times, I found the commissioners to be very engaged and obviously dedicated to the difficult task they have undertaken. All of us at CUC look forward to working with the new commissioners and will do whatever we can to facilitate their efforts as our regulator," he added.



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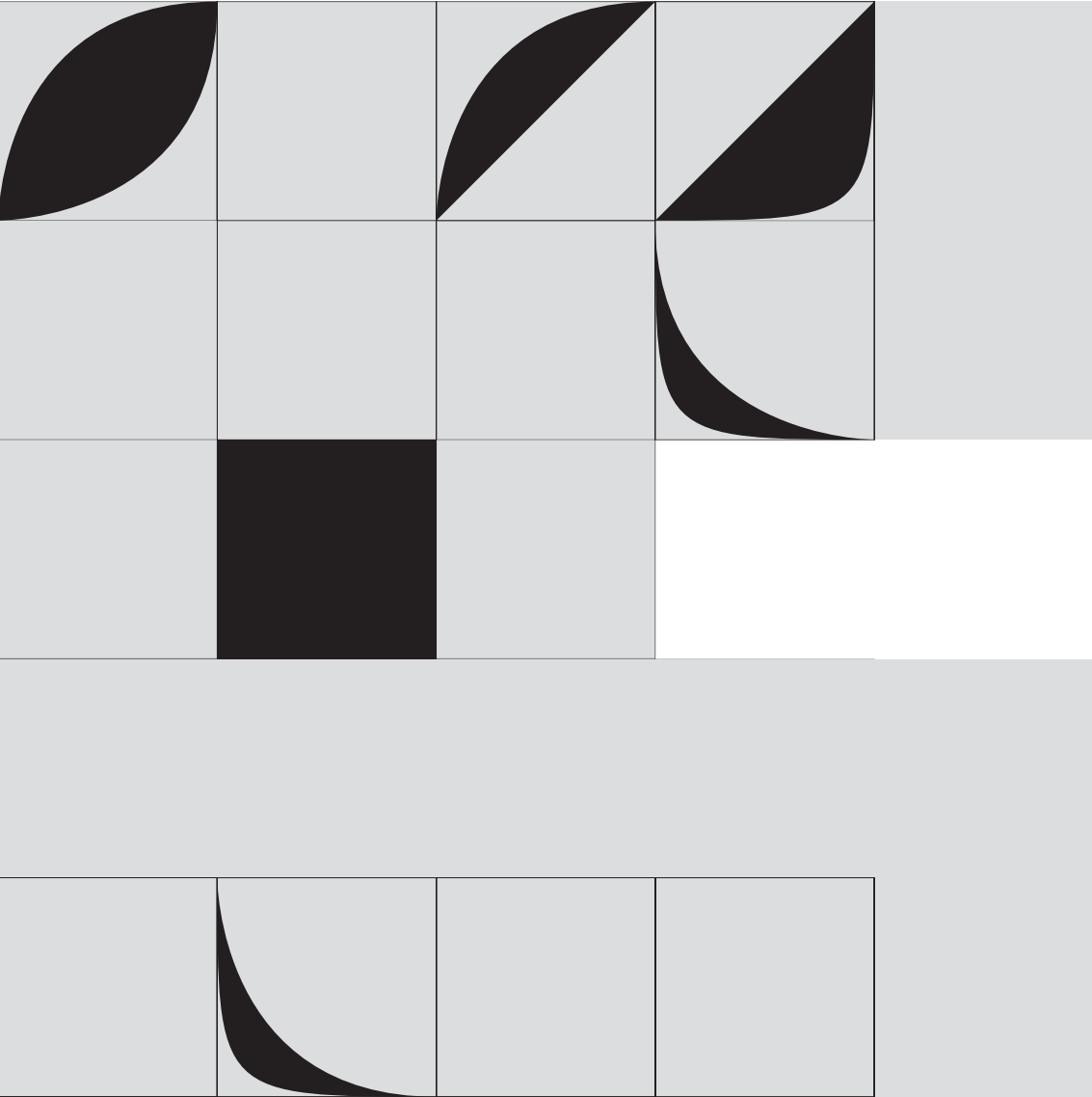
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NMC says it keeps spending within means

»\$17.68M revenue vs \$17.5M expenses last fiscal year

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College posted a "balance" in its fiscal year operation in 2013, based on unaudited figures obtained by Saipan Tribune yesterday.

The financial statements indicate that the college raised \$17.68 million in revenue in fiscal year 2013 while its expenses totaled \$17.5 million, leaving over \$100,000 in excess.

Much of NMC's revenue was composed mostly of federal grants and other federal sources, but it also includes funds received from the local government, tuition and fees, and others.

NMC received \$4.474 million from the local government, the bulk of which was used to pay for personnel wages and benefits. Federal grants and awards totaled \$8.882 million. Tuition and fees totaled \$4.321 million.

NMC's unaudited expenses in fiscal year 2013 was about \$17.5 million, lower by a little over \$100,000 compared to revenue for the fiscal year. But since the college expects reduced revenue in fiscal year 2014, the remaining funds have already been earmarked to pay for expenses that include accreditation-related costs like team visits from the accrediting commission.

A breakdown of last fiscal year's expenses was not immediately available yesterday.

"NMC continues to improve the management of its finances and its internal control measures. Our unaudited expenditure figure also shows that the college continues to live within its means and that we continue to make progress in reducing operational expenses," said NMC president Dr. Sharon Y. Hart when asked for comments.

Hart said that NMC has put in place internal austerity measures to reduce its operating expenses.

"From reducing electricity use to maximizing classroom space,

we are looking for different ways to cut spending while maintaining a high quality learning environment," said Hart.

Last year, the college noted that audit firm Deloitte and Touche indicated that NMC is one of the most financially compliant and stable government entities in the CNMI and the region.

According to the college, it has already engaged the services of J. Scott Magliari and Co. to audit NMC's financial statements, internal controls, and compliance with rigorous accounting principles. The final, audited financial statements for 2013 will be made available in June 2014.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

December 6, 2005

Appointees told to 'resign now'

Appointed officials holding key positions in government should resign now, rather than wait for the incoming administration to ask them to, the Office of the Governor-Elect said yesterday. According to transition committee chairman Martin Manglona, appointees of the outgoing Babauta administration should be courteous enough to give way to the Fitial government. "All officials in key position should tender their courtesy resignations before the new administration comes in, so the next governor and lieutenant governor could have the chance to select their own people. It's common sense to do this; they should not wait to be asked," Manglona said.

'HPMR reduced rates for members'

The NMI Retirement Fund said it would be able to save on its monthly payments to Hawaii Pacific Medical Referral following the company's decision to reduce its rates per member. Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes said HPMR reduced its rate from \$9.50 each member to \$8.75. There are 10,000 registered members in the Fund's group health insurance program. "It would be down to \$87,000 a month," said Reyes. He said HPMR made the reduction during a recent negotiation for its contract extension. The Fund has agreed to extend HPMR's Dec. 31 contract for up to 12 months in view of the government's failure to privatize the health insurance program this year.

December 6, 2006

Tan Holdings' commitment to NMI remains

Despite the announced closure of its garment manufacturing operations on Saipan, Tan Holdings Corp. reaffirmed its "long-term commitment to doing business in the CNMI and in the region." The company said that, although Concorde has long been considered a "sister company" to Tan Holdings, the garment factory is a separate legal entity from the group of companies that does business in more than a dozen industries in the Western Pacific. "The garment factory's closure will not affect the operations of other businesses the company owns in the region," it said.

Castro, Camacho hailed as MHS Role Models

Marianas High School seniors Jose Castro and Jasheleen Camacho were recently crowned as MHS' Mr. and Ms. Role Model of the Year. Castro and Camacho bested seven other male and female candidates during the grand pageant night held Saturday evening at the Pedro L. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. First place went to seniors Bernard Rivera and Karen Hartman while the second place went to Gabriel Berger and Myrene Evangelista. Third place winners were Marco Castro and Keisha Paez. Several special awards were also given away during the event. The award for Mr. and Ms. Photogenic went to Jose Castro and Naomi Sablan. The Mr. and Ms. Congeniality plum went to Marco Castro and Myrene Evangelista.

December 6, 2007

Biz sector: Recovery will take 2 to 15 yrs

Some businesses believe the local economy can recover in two years, while the less optimistic ones say it may take 15 years. This projection is based on responses by some 50 firms to a survey conducted by the Burger & Comer accounting firm. The survey is done as part of a federally funded economic study for the Commonwealth. Addressing the Saipan Chamber of Commerce yesterday, David Burger said local businesses have identified three business factors that will help revive the economy—improved airline service, reduced utility costs, and change in land alienation provisions.

Cutting of trees at Quarry triggers islandwide outages

Cut trees that hit an electrical grid triggered island-wide outages on Saipan yesterday. The outages began at 1:15pm. The electric power was restored at different times starting at 2:07pm. The power was completely back on line at 4:22pm when the Chalan Kiya electrical grid was energized. Commonwealth Utilities Corp. spokesperson Pamela Mathis said at 1:15pm all engines at the Power Plant in Lower Base went into an emergency shutdown mode caused by a large fault or surge of electricity. "The engines are designed to automatically shut down when they sense this type or large scope of electrical imbalance," Mathis explained.



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'Abolition of scholarship programs is not an option'

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Despite the revenue shortfall faced by the government, the Inos administration still wants to sustain the scholarship programs offered by the CNMI Scholarship Office, according to Lt. Gov. Jude Hofschneider.

He said the administration is convinced that these programs are key to developing the needed educated workforce in the CNMI.

"Absolutely, the abol[ition] [of scholarship programs] is not a possibility and I am speaking for the Inos' administration. I can vouch for that," he told *Saipan Tribune*, saying it is the government's commitment to assist students in pursuing their dreams to become professionals and become assets of the Commonwealth.

He disclosed, however, that the administration has no plan to extend the Honors scholarship program, the sunset provision of which recently expired.

Pursuant to Public Law 14-37, the Honors Scholarship program administered by the CNMI Scholarship Office was to last only up to December last year. As a result, the government had stopped accepting new applicants for the program beginning this fall 2013 semester and is just waiting for existing Honors recipients to complete their courses.

Saipan Tribune learned that in order for the program to be extended or implemented again, it would have to be done by way of legislation and enactment into law, which the Executive Branch may recom-

mend to the Legislature.

But for now, Hofschneider disclosed that no such plan is being considered by the Inos administration.

"It is something that needs serious evaluation and we know that the government is being challenged by revenue stream. As much as we want to look at it in a broader perspective,



Hofschneider

I don't think it will happen now...or not at this time," said Hofschneider.

The abolition of the government's scholarship programs, once described as very generous, surfaced as a way to

help government raise revenue for more critical services. Many believe it is about time to either suspend or remove this financial assistance due to the many students who have defaulted on the rule that requires them to return to the CNMI once they finish their studies.

The Honors scholarship program provides qualified applicants up to \$15,000 a year. In the 1990s, the award was up to \$30,000 annually per scholar. There are 40 scholars currently receiving assistance under this program, of which 12 are ongoing students and continue to receive the grants until the completion of their courses. Majority of the recipients of this program are off-island.

The Honors scholarship is one of the two programs offered by the CNMI Scholarship Office and included in the yearly budget appropriated by the Legislature. The other program and the only one existing at present is the Educational Assistance Program, or EAP.

According to Hofschnei-

der, the administration has full confidence in the new board of the CNMI Scholarship Office, now headed by chair Glenna Palacios-Reyes.

It will be recalled that Hofschneider, when he was serving as acting governor some months ago, asked for the resignation of all members of the scholarship board.

"It was a policy call...as the new administration," he explained when asked if he was dissatisfied with the previous board's performance. "There were some [members] who were not necessarily in agreement with some policies we instituted. There are some members who did not accept the offer to stay, and we respect that."

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9th Holiday Bazaar on Dec. 21

The 9th annual Holiday Bazaar, organized by Brilliant Star School, will be held Saturday, Dec. 21, from 9am to 5pm at the Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe. The event is an opportunity for artists and other vendors to showcase their arts, and for island residents and visitors to get an early start on buying unique and beautiful gifts for the holidays. The day-long event will also be graced by performances throughout the day by community cultural and arts groups, as well as raffles with prizes donated by community businesses.

"We're looking forward to another year of showcasing our island's arts, crafts and gifts. We still have a couple of tables available for any interested artists or vendors," said Susan Baetge, one of the event organizers. Interested vendors may contact the school at 323-STAR (323-7827).

In the past, shoppers have commented on the convenience and comfort of finding such a

variety of island gifts in a single place ahead of the holidays. The Holiday Bazaar has been likened to a mini-Flame Tree Arts Festival with air-conditioning.

For parents who would like to have a little alone shopping time, the event features an arts and crafts area for children. We will watch your child and help them with an art project while you do your holiday shopping.

Throughout the day there will be entertainment from local performers and raffles. Raffle prizes have been donated through the generosity of various island businesses and vendors.

Bento box lunches, snacks, and drinks will be available for purchase throughout the day.

"Every year we look forward to host this event at the Multi-Purpose Center," said Richard Sikkil, principal of Brilliant Start School. "We expect a vibrant crowd from our school and island community because this event provides quality shopping and gets us all in the holiday spirit." (PR)

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Rather than putting a happy face on Obamacare website fixes, the administration needs to be more forthright about the problems that remain

The following editorial appeared in the Baltimore Sun on Tuesday, Dec. 3:

This much can be said for the Obama administration's boast on Sunday that it had met its self-imposed deadline for making HealthCare.gov work well for the vast majority of users two months after its launch: At least there was no "Mission Accomplished" banner.

It is, of course, not really fair to compare the White House's effort to publicize improvements in the Obamacare insurance exchange website with former President George W. Bush's celebration of victory in Iraq. Like Republicans' efforts to declare the website rollout President Barack Obama's version of Hurricane Katrina, there's an absurd mismatch in the scope and consequences of the presidential failures in question. But Mr. Bush's infamous photo-op should at least have served as a lesson to the Obama administration that the public's trust will not be regained by declaring success prematurely. And make no mistake, HealthCare.gov, while much improved, is still far from where it needs to be.

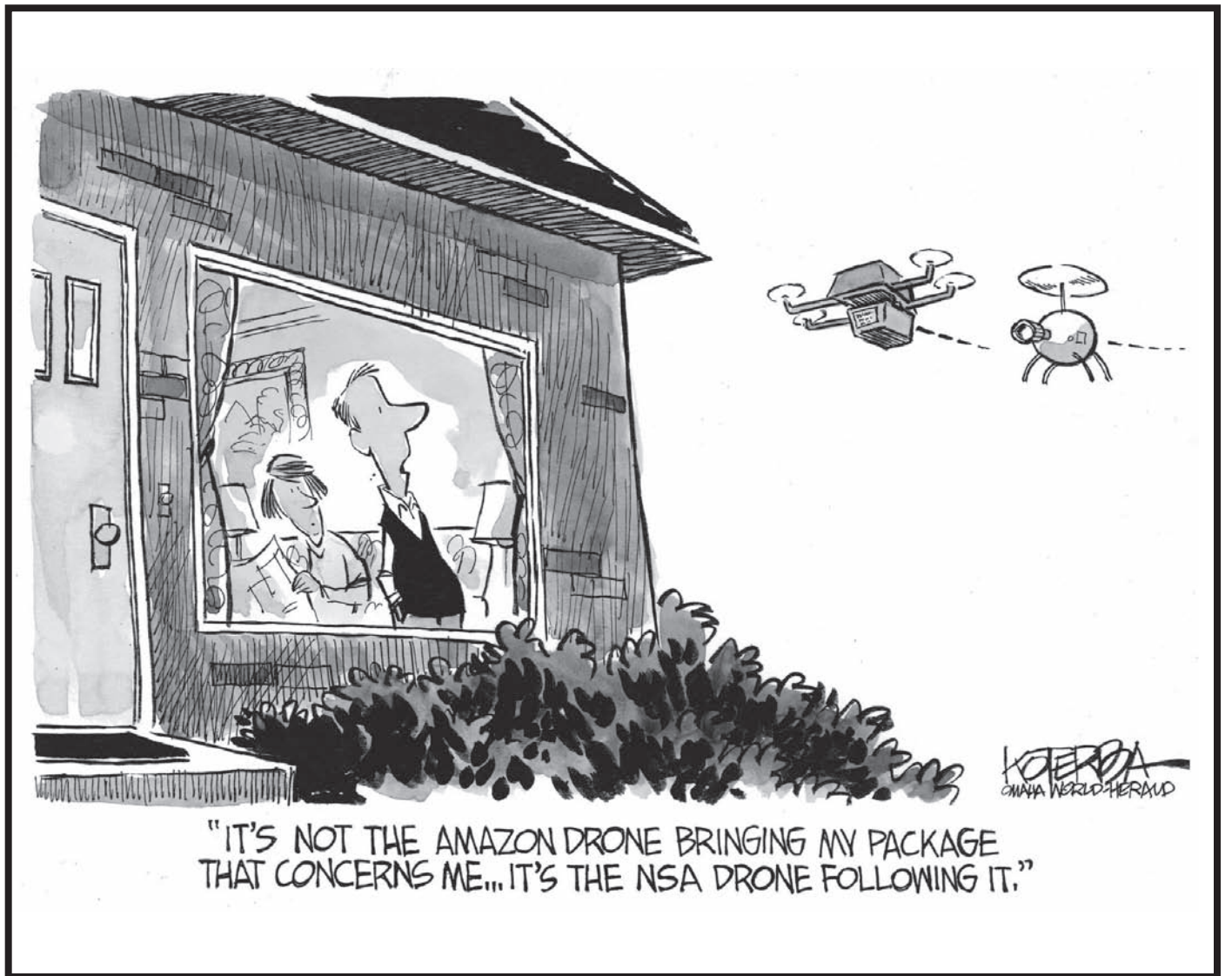
The Obama administration focused its efforts during the last two months on improving the customer experience with the website, an understandable priority given that the Affordable Care Act will only work if sufficient numbers of people sign up for insurance, and since the website's early failures both stymied those who were eager to sign up and scared away those who weren't necessarily excited about it in the first place. Pages now load faster—under a second rather than the eight second delays common early on—and more than 50,000 people can now use the site at once. Administration officials say that unscheduled downtime for the site is now less than 10 percent.

That's much better than the early days, when the site was down more than half the time, but it would still be considered disastrous by industry standards. President Obama promised a system that would make shopping for insurance as easy as buying a book on Amazon.com. Amazon, according to Panopta, a company that tracks the availability of online retail sites, hasn't had a single minute of unscheduled downtime this holiday season. It is joined in that distinction by 58 of the other big e-tail sites that Panopta monitors.

And downtime isn't the only issue. Many of those who tried to sign up for insurance in the early days of HealthCare.gov got hung up in the process and have been unable to complete their applications, even with the website's improvements. And perhaps even more significantly, big problems remain with the back-end functions of the site that could lead to more frustration down the road for insurers and customers alike.

Insurance industry officials report widespread errors in the transmission of data from the government's system to theirs. They are getting incomplete, erroneous or duplicate applications, or sometimes no information at all about customers who believe they have signed up for coverage. Given that the first insurance policies purchased on the website are supposed to go into effect on Jan. 1, that could be a huge problem. The insurance compa-

Se RATHER on Next Page



Steve Jobs' Apple

There are many stories about the bitten fruit in the Apple logo, the best being a reference to the old story in the Torah of the forbidden fruit in the garden of Eden not included in Adam and Eve's snack menu. That, in one of the interpretations, opened the first couple's eyes to reality, and thus, knowledge. Moralists later picked on the state of their nakedness as a symbol of the transgressed bliss of their innocence in the realization that they walked around without figs covering their bared unmentionables!

The hardcover copy of Apple's Steve Jobs bio by Walter Isaacson was too expensive for my pocket but its popularity found an audience with the Chinese readers. My students lugged copies of the Chinese version, Apple's financial success being of interest to members of China's money-minded and wealth-hungry generation.

A cheap, not-so-legal English copy was available in back sections of bookstores where proprietary rights are still casually ignored, but we were not in the market, so we thought we would wait for the paperback edition. This October, however, in a hurried trip to Honolulu to visit elderly Mom at the hospital, my brother, a bit on the proprietary side, had a copy lying around deteriorating under the sun. (He sleeps outdoors in solidarity with the displaced native Hawaiians). We appropriated the book knowing that it is easier to ask for forgiveness later rather than seek permission beforehand.

We are an iMac user since Apple aimed "to connect everyone to the Library of Alexandria." Steve Jobs was the favored dartboard image to many who took exception to his management style and esoteric creative bent; the other Steve of the techie side of the company, Wozniak, is the cuddly notable of the tinkering duo at a Los Altos garage before Menlo Park and Silicon Valley became famous IT centers.

Clear in Isaacson's narration is the dichotomy in personal computers of one that is left open like the PC of Windows so the laissez faire of the marketplace determines directions, against the fastidious Apple OS design that promotes intentionality in the marriage of aesthetic and function before the market's bottom line.

Microsoft of Bill Gates represented the first while Steve Jobs' Apple the second. Both exercised strong leadership roles at head office but Microsoft harkened to market research and the clamor of the stock market for substantial profit. He served the market well. He took it for a ride all the way to the bank.

Vision coupled to mission, engineering guided by design, was Apple's simultaneous forte and Achilles heel. It developed incredible products, letting the engineers be subservient to the imagination of designers, skewing deadlines and costs until Jobs is satisfied, making simple elegance concomitant to affordability. Microsoft kept the bank happy in the short run; Apple took a bundle to Ire-

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara is an ordained minister of the United Methodist Church and was pastor of Saipan Immanuel UMC at the second millennium's turn. He now writes from China.



land's tax haven while at the cutting edge of cyberspace technology.

Corporate boards stick to the Microsoft model; entrepreneurs are disciples to Jobs' refusal to let company divisions stray from central control. Operationally, the dichotomy is false. Mercurial Steve Jobs, compared to the affable Bill Gates (who had enough sense to marry fair Melinda), just happens to be a more controversial person, and thereby a better copy, for press coverage.

The implication on governance is, however, not lost to political thinkers. Built into the U.S. Constitution, and the prevailing mythology of its federal system, is the necessity of the separation of powers. It developed when frivolous royalty was still fresh on patriots' minds, along with a pessimistic view of nature from Adam Smith's invisible hand (enlightened self-interest gone sour), the Malthusian trap (we breed faster than we grow food), and eventually, Darwin's natural selection process that confirmed Europe's predilection to consider the superiority of the fair skinned Aryan race over any shade of color. Christian theology's view of human nature as rooted in original sin abetted the prejudice, and we created governance as the management of fear and distrust.

In the '90s, I lived inside the DC beltway. I was told that there were nine folks doing oversight work for every implementing personnel. This is check-and-balance gone awry. The recent gridlock when a few disgruntled legislators shut down the federal system reveals an emasculated government in all its branches. Nine justices are hardly wise, at-loggerheads Boehner-Cruz-Reid are either indecisive or petulant, and Obama is now caricatured as the Joker rather than Batman. Perhaps, it is time to bite into the apple, and face the truth about our lives once more. And do so at Adam Smith's enlightened-self level, the fuel to the nation's ideology.

The Oxford Dictionary's word of the year is "selfie," a self-portrait one takes with a smartphone and posts on social nets. What if we expand that and create a mosaic of selfie-nets taking potshots at how decisions are shared at the local level, how to sustain the Earth, and how we create symbols and images that proclaims the reality of our time: that all the Earth belongs to all the selfies?

PCs (Apple, et al) to the ready! Begin.

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Buying the universe

Thanks largely to many recent successes by NASA, astronomy news often finds its way into the general press. This inspires some people to buy backyard telescopes so they can have a look-see at the heavens. If you are playing Santa this year, you, too, might be tempted to buy a telescope.

The good news is that we're living in a golden age of amateur telescopes, thanks to a flood of high-quality, mass-produced scopes on the market.

The other news is that buying a telescope requires some research. Don't hip-shoot for a telescope, you'll probably miss the mark by a wide margin.

When it comes to research, the go-to guy for this is Ed Ting. He's the author of ScopeReviews.com. The "Beginners Advice" page of the site is a great starting-off point.

Here's a quote from the site, and the emphatic capitalization is from the original text: "Avoid department store, toy store, and 'Nature/Science' store telescopes. I cannot restate this strongly enough: STAY AWAY from department store telescopes!"

Got that, Santa?

That observation jibes with my experience. This year I encountered several people who bought, or who were given, scopes from department stores, discount stores, or big box stores, and none of them were happy with the experience.

Well, we've covered what not to buy, which leaves us with the question of what to buy.

I'm going to skip a lot of general information here; I lack the space. So let's just boil things down to another quote from Mr.

Avalanche: Costs slam families

As families juggle numbers on their pocketbooks, an announcement was issued this week that health premiums and deductibles (insurance) will increase by some 35-40 percent on the first of year. It's another heavy blow against family pocketbooks!

I knew this was coming down the pike after the Obamacare fiasco displaced more people into hardship land, though I wasn't sure how much it would be here.

The increase would paralyze some 3,000 retirees and their families further after being slammed with a 25-percent cut in pension pay. So far, it adds up 60 percent in additional cost to the family purse for retirees and those caught in the underemployed category. The family budget or purchasing power is torpedoed as everything spikes and choices narrow!

Furthermore, everybody must face the impending increase in the cost of basic goods after Matson announced an increase per container of some \$325. This added cost against the family purse would definitely reduce the purchasing power of more families.

As though these increases aren't enough, the Scrooge of Christ-mas—CUC—is crowing to increase power bills beyond what they are today.

Up ahead, taxpayers must pay for the repayment of pension obligation bonds of between \$60 million–\$80 million that would be tagged with higher interest rate.

Moreover, families must still endure paying for the first family real estate loan, auto loan, real estate insurance; life insurance; cost of catastrophic illnesses; money sent to kids abroad going to school, in addition to the high cost of potent medication.

So no matter where families turn, it's the avalanche of cost that skyrockets beyond their ability to pay for more increases while their income stays zero or stagnant. Is there hope ahead for some respite of help to ease the myriad of costs being leveled against families all over the archipelago?

Isn't pushing the poor further into hopelessness and destitution instruments that could lead into a huge social implosion in the near-term?

Disintegration of paradise

We seem to be languishing in the dark, ignoring that a lot has gone

Ting's site: "If I were pressed to recommend one telescope for beginners, it would be the Orion Skyquest XT8."

I'll back-fill some information there, since it helps us pry open the telescope world. "Orion," in this context, is a respected brand of telescope, and the company does a lot of direct sales via their website, Telescope.com.

The SkyQuest XT8 is a model from Orion in which the main optical element (a mirror) is eight inches in diameter (that's the "8" in "XT8"). This scope lists for about \$360. The tube of the scope is 46.5 inches long, and the whole affair, the tube plus the mount (base) it sits in, weighs 41 pounds.

The arrangement of this scope is called a "Dobsonian" design. In pure terms of what you can see through the eyepiece, Dobsonian telescopes deliver the most bang for the buck due to their simplicity. Well, nothing is ever simple in telescopes, but some things are simpler than others.

I'll note that we're talking about "visual" astronomy here, the old-school method of putting a hairy eyeball up to an eyepiece and taking a look. By contrast, you can put a camera up to the telescope, but that is a different realm entirely and far beyond the scope (ha!) of my screed.

In this epoch in which even telephones have GPS embedded, it won't surprise you that many telescopes have electronic guidance and tracking, some of it quite sophisticated.

Other telescopes, including many (but not all) Dobsonians, are strictly manual propositions, where users often use charts to help them point their scopes to the desired target. This is called "star hopping" and it's how I get around using my 10-inch Dobsonian.

Telescopes, like field artillery, are measured by their bore diameter, or, to put a bigger word on it, their "aperture." A telescope is

wrong in these isles. Even more troubling is the demeanor of people at the helm who treat the deepening economic malaise with "business as usual."

Appalling that the hardship of the people they represent doesn't seem to jolt the wits of our governmental institutions. Conscious leadership is nonexistent. Our government is bankrupt, a fiscal colossus that retards economic growth. It's economic dystopia—where nothing works—and keep intoning "que sera, sera."

We've yet to see plans to attract durable investments. Instead, there's determination to pile more debts to the current deficit of some \$369 million. It's a rolling disaster with no light in sight.

Stunned by grand neglect of recent past, we quiz and struggle to answer the non-directional query, "What's north?" It's zero-sum up that alley, right? With self-denial in perpetuity, folks all over ask: Is there any hope in our future? Maybe! Even this query is pensive in every sense. Can't ably put a finger on it.

There's the appalling disconnect with issues that simply boggles the mind. It is further suffocated by the lack of any sense of urgency to do anything decisively. The seeming apathy and mediocrity grandly ignores the hardship our people struggle with daily to make ends meet. Doing nothing only exacerbates miserable conditions.

Indeed, there's also the obvious: The global village is changing faster than leaders can reinvent themselves, leading to a growing gap between them and those they lead. Perhaps herein lies the greater problem of leadership on the islands where most have been overtaken by issues and events, somewhat left dangling in disorientation struggling to figure out "what's north."

Robert Rosen, author and business consultant on leadership, asserts that it isn't what you do that drives who you are but that successful leaders have a sense of who they are and have great character.

Said he: "The one dimension...that is most highly predictive of success is spiritual health. Leaders who score well in this area have a sense of higher purpose and a generosity of spirit and so see themselves as part of something bigger." Accordingly, while looking upwards, they are also "grounded," a term that kept coming up in the research, says Rosen.

Other dimensions of leadership in his book included such prerequisites as health—how you live, emotions—how you feel; in-

enrollees qualify for government subsidies, and administration officials admit that the software that will allow the government to pay its share of the premiums remains unbuilt.

As it stands, HealthCare.gov resembles an old Western town in which false fronts hide ramshackle buildings. Improved though it may be, it is still likely to produce errors that will frustrate consumers and insurance companies alike, and the administration needs to be forthright about that fact. Obamacare, as the president has said, is more than a website. It's a law that provides millions of people with the opportunity to get quality, affordable health care, and it eliminates some of the worst exclusions and limitations insurance

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.
His column runs every Friday.



really just a big funnel that you hold up to your eye. Only in this case, instead of gathering liquid, the funnel gathers light. The wider the mouth of the funnel is, the more light it gathers. And the more light it gathers, the more stuff we can see.

So the big concept here is not magnification, but is, instead, light-gathering. And that's why telescopes are referred to by their sizes (apertures).

As for Saipan's case, we have some things to consider. For one thing, I've never found the local skies to be very clear, which puts a bit of a blanket on the astronomy thing, but maybe that's just my experience and you see things differently. For another thing, shipping costs are a bigger deal than in the mainland, so if we're talking about large packages that weigh a lot, it will require opening up the wallet.

On the other hand, opening up the skies has never been as affordable as it is now, so there's no use derailing anyone's ambitions based on the fact that not everything is perfect. At least you don't have to stand in the snow to use a telescope on Saipan.

By JOHN DELROSARIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



tellect—how you think; social—how you interact; vocation—how you perform; and, spiritual—how you view the world.

Now do you have an inkling why the deepening mess at home? We'd continue probing the leadership issue in hopes of understanding what it takes to make decisive changes from economic misery to prosperity in the near-term.

SNAP Isles of the NMI

In one of the long haul trips I took to Washington, it was winter and so everything downstairs was plain white from snow. It's all white landscape well into Dulles Airport.

The other trip was in autumn and I saw huge farmlands like pictures I've seen in reading books in grammar school. Huge!

Indeed, the wealth of country entered my tiny mindset and all its potential most capable of turning despair into one of opportunities. But it wasn't the wealth of natural resources that grabbed my attention as much as the mantra of rugged individualism. It paved the way for the wealthiest and most powerful country in the world.

Conversely, the Land of the Rising Sun isn't blessed with huge landmass like the U.S. or Australia. But it's the second richest country in the world. It succeeded grandly morphing from backwater into a global economic power.

We should salute our illustrious and esteemed Washington delegate for crafting, escorting, fostering, and cementing the new Marianas reputation: SNAP Isles. At least we would be transitioning from one humiliating reputation of Islas De Las Ladrões (Island of Thieves) to another. Call it a monumental achievement in humiliation!

companies have practices in the past. But the website is the chief mechanism by which people are to enroll, and if they don't, the entire system will come crashing down.

The incompetent roll-out of HealthCare.gov dealt a severe blow to the law's viability by diminishing public trust in the reforms far more than years of Republican attacks had managed. If whole new classes of problems crop up after the administration has assured the public that the website is fixed, the blow could prove fatal.

RATHER

From Page 10






nies were not prepared for the task of correcting a large volume of errors for Obamacare enrollees, and many customers may not discover there's a problem until they show up at a doctor's office or hospital.

Moreover, the systems by which individuals and the government are supposed to pay for health insurance remain incomplete or flawed. Insurers say they're getting errors in reports of whether

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Mostly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲85 ▼78
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲87 ▼77
Yap	Showers	▲89 ▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲85 ▼78
Kosrae	Showers	▲85 ▼78
Majuro	Sunny	▲85 ▼79

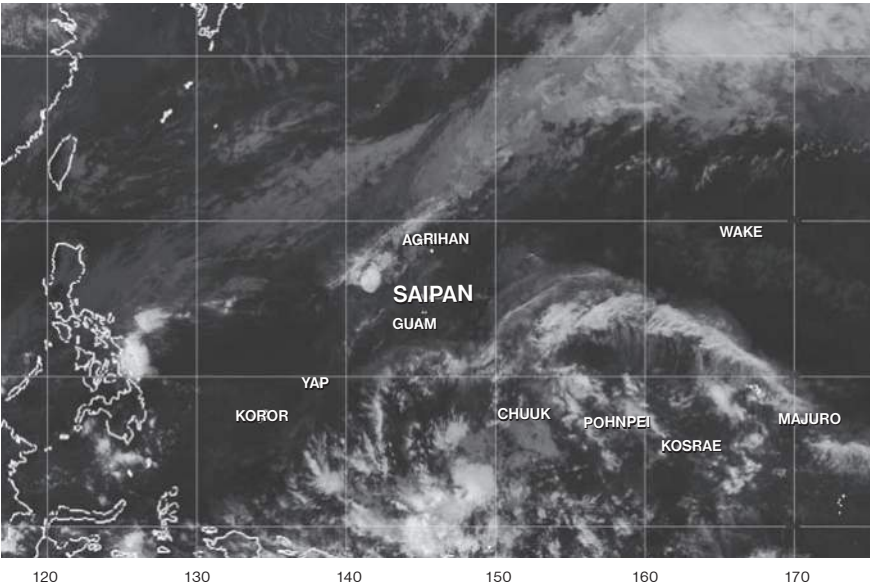
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲73 ▼63
Beijing	Sunny	▲56 ▼25
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲75 ▼62
Honolulu	Sunny	▲82 ▼69
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲42 ▼41
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲59 ▼39
Manila	Mostly Sunny	▲86 ▼77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲66 ▼49
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲81 ▼71
New York	Cloudy	▲60 ▼55
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲60 ▼45
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲44 ▼36
Pusan	Sunny	▲54 ▼37
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲56 ▼40
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲37 ▼24
San Francisco	Sunny	▲53 ▼38
Seoul	Sunny	▲45 ▼32
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲62 ▼44
Washington, DC	Showers	▲67 ▼60

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
3:50 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
10:52 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
4:32 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
9:17 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2013

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near equatorial trough stretches from 3N130E to 4N140E through a circulation centered near 1N150E to end near the equator and 153E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the circulation can be found southeast of Yap between the equator and 6N from 138E to 150E. A surface trough extends from 4N160E to 9N158E. Scattered showers are located over Pohnpei between 6N and 10N from 155E to 161E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over and south of Kwajalein between 2N and 10N from 165E to 169E. A surface trough stretches from 10N136E to 15N138E to 20N143E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms can be found west of the Marianas between 15N and 19N from 140E to 143E. A cold front extends from 25N150E to 21N144E. Patchy clouds and rain are present along and up to 300 miles northwest of this boundary.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:30AM	5:46 PM
Saturday	6:30AM	5:46 PM
Sunday	6:31AM	5:46 PM
Monday	6:32 AM	5:47 PM
Tuesday	6:32 AM	5:47 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:21 AM	9:13 PM
Saturday	10:14 AM	10:14 PM
Sunday	11:04 AM	11:12 PM
Monday	11:50 AM	
Tuesday	12:33 PM	12:07 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 2, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN
UA5070 4:15am 5:05am Daily	UA5069 2:45am 3:35am Daily
UA5068 8:40am 9:30am Daily	UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily
UA5038 2:20pm 3:10pm 2, 3, 6	UA5039 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7
UA5078 6:05pm 6:55pm Daily	UA5077 4:45pm 5:35pm Daily
UA5072 9:50pm 10:40pm Daily	UA5079 8:30pm 9:20pm Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)	GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)
UA5039 1:35pm 2:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	UA5038 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN
UA5039 2:40pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	UA5038 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)	PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN
DL287 6:05am 11:25pm 2, 6 via NRT	DL298 4:35am 3:00pm 3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN
DL287 6:05am 8:40am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6	DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily
DL297 4:30pm 7:20pm Daily	DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN
OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7	OZ607 9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN
OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1	D2101 8:30am 2:00pm 3
D2102 2:20am 5:50am 3	OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily
OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	D2103 7:30pm 1:00am+1 6
OZ6063 3:30am 7:20am 4, 7	OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7
D2104 2:00pm 5:30pm 6	OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	OZ6053 9:10pm 2:30am+1 3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN
3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN
MU764 4:10am 8:00am 1, 5	MU763 7:55pm 3:10am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN
3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN
OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN	OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily
OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	PR110/UA5072 7:35am 5:35pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/191 4:15am 9:05am 3, 6 via GUM	DL172/288 7:40am 1:30am+1 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
DL287/473 6:05am 10:30pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	UA190/5079 10:00am 5:35pm 3, 6 via GUM
UA5068/PR111 8:40am 4:45pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN
UA5038/183 2:20pm 9:30pm 2 via GUM	OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5078/183 6:05pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	UA184/5071 11:59pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN
OZ606/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN	OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN
OZ606/721 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN
UA5068/179 8:40am 10:35pm 1, 5 via GUM	OZ724/605 1:50pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5038/179 2:20pm 10:35pm 3, 6 via GUM	UA180/5071 11:10pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Clarifications

A series of recent op-ed pieces in the *Saipan Tribune* have misquoted many of the terms in the power purchase agreement being promoted by Saipan Development, LLC. I'd like to provide the correct facts:

1. Per the op-ed, this is a \$70 million purchase. This amount is mentioned nowhere in the contract. What the contract does have includes:

a) a guaranteed monthly payment by CUC of \$636,091 for 300 months, or \$190,827,300 for the 300-month period (Article 6, Section 6.4 "Guarantee Price")

b) an operations and maintenance fee of \$0.0191/kWh of plant production. This will equal about \$4,600,000 per year at current production levels (Article 6, Section 6.5 "Operations and Maintenance Fee")

c) a production fee of \$0.0153/kWh of plant production. This will equal about \$3,700,000 per year at current production levels (Article 6, Section 6.5 "Production Fee")

d) CUC continues to buy fuel for the plant

2. Per the op-ed, the contract guarantees a 10-percent cut in power bills. What the contract really says:

a) "The Parties intend that the Plant will produce electricity with a percent (10%) or greater efficiency than currently obtained by CUC (Article 2, Section 2.16(a)), HOWEVER

b) "Failure to achieve the intended fuel efficiencies or cost reduction shall not constitute an Event of Default..." (Article 2, Section 2.16(c)). This means the 10-percent cut is not guaranteed, and there is no penalty to SDLLC for failing to deliver the savings.

3. Per the op-ed, the contract calls for SDLLC to sell power to CUC for \$0.20/kWh. This is not stated anywhere in the SDLLC PPA.

The power purchase agreement is a public document and available upon request.

Charles Warren

CFO, Commonwealth Utilities Corp.
Dandan, Saipan

Internal vs external forces

By **BETTY BAI**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Maldives is an island nation in the Indian Ocean. The economy is based on tourism. Maldives is very famous for its natural beauty, which includes the blue ocean and white beaches, accompanied by clean air and pleasant temperatures. But Maldives is ranked the third most endangered nation due to flooding from climate change. Climate scientists had issued stark warnings about rising sea levels, which could eventually engulf the Maldives.

In November 2008, then President, Mohamed Nasheed came up a visionary notion and announced plans to put aside some of Maldives tourism revenues to buy another homeland in India, Sri Lanka, or Australia. But Australia's government has already turned down a request to offer citizenship to the Maldivians.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in the West Pacific Ocean is a U.S. territory. The economy also relies heavily on tourism. The CNMI tourism industry has been dwindling since late 2005, while a rapidly fading garment industry made the bad economic situation worse, until 2008 when the last garment factory closed. The CNMI fell into the category of a place dependent upon a single industry, tourism.

The CNMI shares similar tropical island elements as Maldives, offering most sought-after holiday destinations. Fortunately, the CNMI isn't facing the looming situation as Maldivian does—so far. Furthermore, in terms of its single industry, CNMI tourism business shows signs of recovery. In local newspapers, one marketing expert described 2013 as an exciting year of the rebirth of the CNMI tourism. Experts also project that the number of arrivals will continually increase in 2014.

The question we need to ask ourselves is, while the CNMI is en route to economic recovery, have we thus far just been lucky enough?

Winnowing out a good, promising economy from a bad economy can't be achieved by entrepreneurship alone. A consistent government policy with clear intentions would help entrepreneurs gain confidence in committing to their investment, to cut through their own difficult road and meet their objectives.

However, government uncertainty and inconsistencies hamper existing CNMI investors from maximizing potential capacities of expanding their businesses, especially for those ethnic business groups whose relationship with the government is passive, not active. On, issues that might impact the local economy, they simply sit there preparing for whatever the government gives them. They

See **INTERNAL** on Next Page

Hana Health Massage
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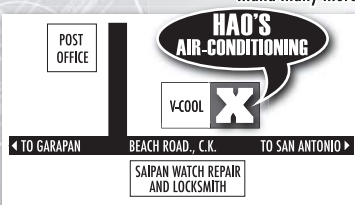
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Doing nothing is not an option

The recent article "Guam lawmakers push affordable sea transportation between Guam, CNMI" is clearly a move in the right direction. It is important that CNMI leaders look at Resolution 279-32 introduced by Sen. Tina Muña Barnes, Rory Respecio, and Speaker Won Pat and respond or act accordingly to reinforce or support their intention through similar action. That is exactly what we need to work on "promoting an affordable alternative regional transportation between Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by means of a commuter and cargo vessel service."

Rota is most affected by the present shipping service. Many times the vessel servicing the island simply forgoes calling port even in perfectly good weather for reasons that point to the fact that Rota is simply not a priority on the shipping company's list. And when they do provide the service, their demands are often ridiculous. For example, their agent will provide a very limited time for cargo preparation and delivery that are at times impossible to accomplish. Consolidators request empty containers on a timely basis just to be denied and when they are provided the container, there is no time to prepare or fill the containers or worse, they simply never provide the container at all. I know this as a fact because I am one of the customers who regularly ship and I do have the facts to prove what I say.

Not only is the service extremely poor, it is also extreme-

ly expensive. It is cheaper to ship containers from the U.S. to Guam than from Guam to Rota. A car shipped from California to Guam is cheaper than from Guam to Rota. Back in 2010, I asked the U.S. Coast Guard if there is any rule requiring cars to be containerized when shipping between the islands. They responded that it is "perhaps a milk run." Of course, it is the shipping company that is milking us with their practices. When I was the operations manager of a shipping company that used to service Rota, we allowed cars to be shipped without a container so that the freight cost will be lower for the customer. Requiring cars to be shipped containerized triple or quadruple the cost and as a result milks the customers.

Leaders should look closer and deeper at our transportation issues and seriously question the practices of shippers' milking practices and perhaps correct the problems that exist either through oversight, subsidy, regulation, or improvements in infrastructures that will invite competition. The existing service is certainly killing our economy and our people. Prove me wrong! At least Guam legislators are doing something. What are we doing here in the CNMI when such development will only benefit the CNMI more than Guam? Let's act. Doing nothing is not an option.

Frank M. Atalig
Sinapalo 1, Rota

Downright stupid ideology

When someone tries to make a mockery of the founding principles of America, it truly reaffirms the founders of America's assertion in the Federalist Papers that we will have to deal with some "necessary evils" in order to live up to our nation's founding principles of freedom, equality and democracy. Well, we have a good example of a necessary evil when someone is free to assert that the principle of equality is flawed in these modern times. His assertion is absolute stupidity, which puts him beyond ignorance and any hope of ever understanding principles and values we live by.

I won't even mention his name because he doesn't matter as everyone with common sense won't believe him anyway. I was just shocked when he had the nerve to ask "equal to

what" when it comes to equality. I think most elementary children know we should be equal to each other as people and especially as citizens of a nation, which is proof of his ignorance. He actually thinks it is irrational for us to think this way and I'm afraid to even consider how he thinks when he accuses all humanity of being baffled and confused over the revelations of Plato, Aristotle and me. He has no idea of the great company he has put me in, and thanks for the intended insult that is really a compliment! I know most readers are asking themselves what philosophies and principles does this guy live by when he says Plato, Aristotle, and I are wrong when most of the civilized world follow their teachings and the principles of America that I have been promoting.

Political scholars are well aware of the many necessary evils in our social, economic and political activities. So we must all pray for this person as he truly represents one of those necessary evils that we have to put up with in our society. He asserts the names of America's founding fathers and that's all he knows! I was *certified* as a U.S. Constitutional Scholar by the U.S. Congress and my certification was personally autographed for me by Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, which makes me more than qualified to tell readers that this guy is certainly not a modern scholar and beyond human help, needing divine intervention. He has truly lost or never had all of his marbles to begin with.

Ambrose M Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

China makes trouble with Japan

Asia is 13 years into the 21st century, but the conflicts of the 20th and 19th centuries are anything but history. Last week, China imposed air-traffic rules for a section of the East China Sea that includes a set of barren islands taken from it by Japan in 1895.

That step induced a reaction not only from Japan but from the United States, whose defense treaty with Tokyo was an outgrowth of its victory in World War II. The Pentagon sent a couple of B-52s over the islands while pointedly refusing to notify Beijing, a signal that the U.S. is not giving up its position as the premier military power in the Pacific.

Those in power in the two capitals don't want to resort to hostilities. Unfortunately, they also don't want to relinquish their claims to any territory, no matter how outwardly insignificant it may be. So each side feels obliged to rattle sabers to make sure everyone knows they will fight if necessary.

The conflicting claims are not new. What's new is that China is resolved to expand its military might and that Japan is determined not to be pushed around. This quarrel is part of a broader and longer-term contest for influence and control in the region.

This is where the U.S. comes in. It has encouraged China's integration into the world economy and its help in solving international problems, like North Korea. It also has a military alliance with Japan, as well as bases in the country. So it has some leverage with each.

Washington has long declined to take a position on the ultimate resolution of the disagreement over these islands. But Defense Secretary

Chuck Hagel has said that they are covered by the mutual defense treaty. In other words, if the Chinese elect to use military force, they will invite war with the U.S.

Vice President Joe Biden presumably will reinforce that message when he visits Beijing this week, warning the Chinese that unilateral attempts to alter the status quo are likely to backfire by frightening neighbors and inducing them to band together against China. During a stop in Tokyo, he said, "This action has raised regional tensions and increased the risk of accidents and miscalculation." But he was also expected to advise Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government not to let its nationalistic bravado lead it into rash actions.

China's desire for an Air Defense Identification Zone is not inherently outrageous. Japan and South Korea already have their own. The U.S. has its own as well, extending out from our coastlines. But Beijing's sudden and unexpected muscle-flexing in a disputed area suggests aggressive designs that can't be ignored.

It isn't about to start a shooting war, though. The more plausible danger is that as Japan and China will engage in more military patrols in the area, they increase the possibility of miscalculations and accidents that could lead to bloodshed.

So Washington should press the two to settle on procedures to prevent such surprises. It should encourage them to sit down and look for ways to accommodate their differing interests in the islands. Most of all, it should remind them that if either pushes the other too far, both will be the losers.

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MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby gives notice that a **Regular Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, December 10, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.** at the MVA Conference Room San Jose Professional Building Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

- 1) **Preliminary Matters**
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes – October 15, 2013
- 2) **Public Comments**
- 3) **Committee Reports**
 1. Finance
 2. Personnel
 3. Destination Enhancement – Project Update
- 4) **New Business**
 1. Flower Island Project
 2. FY2014 Budget Approval Request on Marketing Programs
 3. Workmen's Compensation Insurance
- 5) **Old Business**
 1. Email ratification - Christmas in the Paseo de Marianas and Local Expenditures for Marketing Projects
- 6) **Miscellaneous/Announcements**
- 7) **Executive Session**
- 8) **Adjournment**

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
Chair, MVA Board of Directors

INTERNAL

From Page 13

whine when vague policy is announced. They believe the rumors that the feds may revoke the Chinese and Russian visa waiver privilege, and they probably won't be able to get back their investments. Instead, they playing safe, stressing the advantage of carefully calculated business actions.

Potential foreign investors, understanding the investment repercussions, take a no-nonsense investment approach and are cautious about new projects in the CNMI, urging

government to put into place a long-term framework and to offer some kind of stability before they forge concrete investments decisions.

The residents of Maldives face collective homelessness as a result of rising sea levels that come from external natural forces; their fate depends to a large degree on global consensus of how to deal with climate change.

Tourism is the driving force behind the CNMI's economic recovery and, although there is no imminent external threat, internal policy disaster might engulf the CNMI economy if policymakers act impetuously and blindly.

The holiday season is coming, and 2014 is the Year of the Horse. Chinese treat the horse as an auspicious symbol for speedy success. If CNMI is to reproduce its success story, it requires courage and effort from politicians, getting people's minds focused on what's next, and not what has been lost, and boosting long term growth prospects. In auspicious 2014 we still have lot more to learn to be flexible, to heed policy trend and to share the knowledge of tackling the issues.

Betty Bai is publisher of Saipan Chinese News and Power Young Publishing.

Expanded 'Christmas in the Marianas' kicks off on Dec. 7

Organizers of the annual "Christmas in the Marianas" celebration will kick off an expanded month of holiday cheer this Saturday, Dec. 7, with the 8th Annual Christmas Tree Decorating Contest.

Organizers have announced a final schedule of events, which includes evening entertainment at Paseo de Marianas pedestrian mall every Saturday and numerous other days throughout December.

"This year's 12th Annual Christmas in the Marianas could possibly turn out to be the biggest and best, thanks to the wide support of many sponsors and supporters in the private sector," said Marianas Visitors Authority community projects manager Martin Duenas. "We invite everyone to come down and enjoy the holiday festivities on our expanded celebration dates this year."

Entertainment, games, and food sales will run from 5:30pm to 9pm each night.

The annual school-wide Christmas Tree Decoration Contest kicks off on Saturday with Saipan Awaodori at 5:30pm, the Christmas Tree Light-up Countdown at 6:05pm, and other entertainment from 7pm to 9pm. Beginning Saturday, revelers will also be able to tie ribbons representing their holiday wishes on the main Christmas tree.

Fourteen schools are compet-

ing in this year's contest, which requires them to use recyclable material for ornaments and other decorations. Participating schools are San Antonio Elementary, Green Meadow, Kagman Elementary, Tanapag Elementary, Golden Harvest International, William S. Reyes Elementary, Oleai Elementary, Dandan Elementary, Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary, Agape Christian, San Vicente Elementary, Mt. Carmel, and Koblerville Elementary Schools and Grace Christian Academy. They are joined by special participants Commonwealth Cancer Association and Girl Scouts of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The "Christmas in the Marianas" celebration will continue every Saturday in December, offering weekly holiday entertainment. On Dec. 14, students will sing their hearts out at the annual Christmas Caroling Competition on-stage at Paseo de Marianas. On Dec. 21, the Parade of Floats will be held around sunset from the Carolinian Affairs Office in Garapan along Beach Road to Paseo de Marianas. Also on Dec. 21, Marianas Walking Association will host the 5K Christmas Health Walk.

Festivities for the month continue with the annual Mochitsuki Festival on Dec. 28, organized in collaboration with the Japanese Society. The festival

marks the season preparation of mochi—a dough-like substance of glutinous rice—for the Japanese New Year.

In addition to the Saturday events, entertainment will be provided nightly on Dec. 22, 27, 29, and 30.

"Christmas in the Marianas" is also sponsored by PDM Promoters, Inc., Team PDI, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Docomo Pacific, DFS Galleria, and Kinpachi Restaurant. Event sponsors are Office of the Governor, DC-CA-Commonwealth Council for Arts & Culture, Division of Environmental Quality, departments of Public Safety, Public Works, and Lands and Natural Resources; Division of Parks and Recreation, Koblerville Youth Learning Center, CNMI Public School System, MINA, Japan Saipan Travel Association, KKMP, Power 99, KZMI, KCNM, Magic 100, Chamolinian Cultural Village Inc., IT&E, RNV Construction, Country House Restaurant, Moby Dick Restaurant, S.P.E. Saipan, Inc., Hafadai Production, Misa Enterprises, and Kinpachi Convenience.

Food and drink vendors are Java Joe's, Okadaya, Hula Girl, Lyn's BBQ, Country House Restaurant, Furusato Restaurant, Kinpachi Restaurant, and various schools conducting fundraisers. (MVA)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A QUALIFYING CERTIFICATE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that:

A. Filing of application. *Sea Touch, LLC*, (the "Applicant"), has filed its application with the Commonwealth Development Authority for a Qualifying Certificate under the Investment Incentive Act of 2000, as amended (4 CMC §3301, et seq.).

B. Address. The address of the Applicant is *Garapan*, municipality of *Saipan*, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands 96950.

C. Proposed investment. The Applicant intends to invest approximately *\$1.125 million* to *establish and operate a business engaged in interactive marine activities, marine animal encounters and other associated activities* located at *Garapan*, municipality of *Saipan*, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

D. Benefits sought. The Applicant is applying for tax relief provided by the Investment Incentive Act of 2000, as amended (4 CMC §3301, et seq.) as follows:

<i>Nature of Tax:</i>	<i>Percentage Requested:</i>	<i>Period Requested:</i>
<i>Business Gross Revenue Tax (abatement)</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>25 years,</i>
<i>Income Tax (rebate)</i>	<i>100 %</i>	<i>25 years.</i>

/s/ Manuel A. Sablan
Executive Director

Pursuant to Qualifying Certificate Rules and Regulations, this ad is paid by the Applicant

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Altima SV	DC2777	SOLD Blue	\$3,000.00	Escape S	DUD463	SOLD Blue	\$3,000.00	Fit Sport	DC0541	SOLD Black	\$2,500.00
Altima S	DC105892	SOLD White	\$3,000.00	Escape S	DUD463	SOLD Green	\$3,000.00	Civic LX	DH5598	SOLD Brown	\$2,500.00
Rogue SV	DW035	SOLD Silver	\$2,000.00	F-150 XL	DFC307	SOLD White	\$3,000.00	Civic LX	DE0507	SOLD Gray	\$2,500.00
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Xterra S 4WD	DN810750	SOLD Gray	\$3,000.00	KIA	STOCK #	Color	Discount	CR-V LX AWD	DL0212	SOLD Brown	\$3,000.00
Pathfinder S 4WD	DC676044	SOLD White	\$4,000.00	Sportage EX	D74858	SOLD Blue	\$2,000.00	CR-V EX	DL0222	SOLD Blue	\$3,000.00
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Island Snapshots



RUBBERNECKING ON TINIAN

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz and Tinian Ports manager Joseph Mendiola observe the F-18 Hornets landing at the West Tinian International Airport.



CAREER EXPLORATION

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. staff members Keomi Palacios, far right, and Melissa Castro, far left, are joined by students from the Saipan Chamber of Commerce Student Career Exploration Day program, which was held on Dec. 4, 2013. Pacifica sponsored four students from a mixed of different high schools under the Public School System from left to right, Kenneth Lizama, Leilani Barquiran, Vanessa Cruz, and Trixie Achal. The SCC program was designed for businesses to have students "shadow" an employee in an effort to help them gain experience of life in the private sector under an employee perspective.



WICHE OUTREACH

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dr. David Longanecker, president of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, meets with members of the House of Representatives and the Senate to discuss the programs that WICHE administers to benefit CNMI students seeking to earn a college degree. From left, NMC president Dr. Sharon Hart, Vice Speaker Frank Dela Cruz, Longanecker, Lt. Gov. Jude Hofschneider, and Senate President Ralph Torres.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



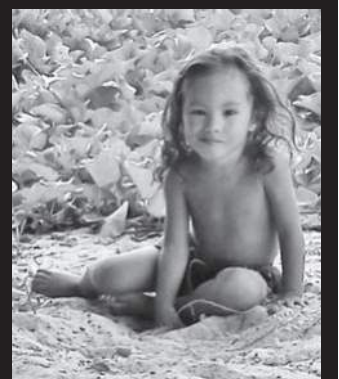
Happy birthday to the Onio sisters Valerie and Verna! Hope you both have a wonderful day, with many more to come. Lots of love, Pam, Polly, Russian Bruha, and Connie.



Happy 2nd birthday Bethinie Jodine! The day you were born you showed us a new kind of love, the kind of love that makes our hearts dance and puts a smile on our faces. It's been a joy watching you grow, discover and learn. We love you!



Happy birthday to Grandpa Rudy Duenas Dela Rosa! We love you and hope you have a great day! Love, your grandchildren Rhian Napu and Tyreen Mercedes!



Advanced happy 3rd birthday to Rhian Napu Dela Rosa Borden! We wish you the best and may God shine all His love on you. Love, Mommy and Daddy!

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Spreading laughter from the West Pacific to West Seattle

By BETTY ROSE CORTES
WEST SEATTLE HERALD

Like many comedians, Mona Concepcion is hilarious, but what sets her apart is that she is the very first female Chamorro stand-up comedienne in the world. And she lives in West Seattle.

"I talk a lot about observation, what it's like to be from a

place so far away, and moving to Seattle as an island girl living in the city," she says.

Mona is from the West Pacific, from Saipan, an island in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. As a native of the island, she is "Chamorro" by blood, and though she does not speak Chamorro as much as she'd like, she understands the language very well.

"I moved here when I was 18 to go to school," she said, "I had family, but they were distant relatives, like aunts and cousins, no immediate family."

That was in 2001 when Mona chose South Seattle Community College to begin her undergraduate studies. "They had the best website," she joked, "I always wanted to be in Seattle, just from watching movies and [MTV's] The Real World. I stayed in an apartment by myself and was wondering how food was going to happen. I lived off Lean Cuisine."

She has a pocket full of jokes and beauty and brains, too.

"I loved reading and the arts. I was in the Junior Statesmen of America in high school," she recalled. The program al-

lowed high school students to visit US mainland colleges, and for a month, Mona was at Stanford University.

Mona graduated from South Seattle at the top of her class. "I majored in English, was there for two years, then went to UW," she said.

And that's when comedy entered her life. Through one of UW's experimental/community courses, she took a stand-up comedy class.

"I've always loved to make people laugh and loved to tell jokes," she said, "I always loved comedy. But to pursue comedy earnestly, I never thought about that."

"I'm only two years in and still have a long way to go," she says humbly, "The best part is when

people laugh at my jokes. It's my product and I have ownership of that. I hear my mom and sisters telling my jokes word for word and I have pride in that."

While she is still young in the industry, Mona has showcased her talents at many events and in different cities, including this year's Chamorro Fest in California, October's Dis/Orient/Ed show in Portland, even flying back home to Saipan, and many other venues in Seattle, like Jai Thai's on Capitol Hill, the Feedback Lounge on California Ave and her stint in Camas for Labor Day.

"I try to do shows at least twice a month," she said in regard to juggling being a mother, wife to her husband, Mike, and working for UW. "I have

two kids and I like to see them sometimes."

Her children, Nathan and TJ, are 7 and 3 years of age, respectively, and contribute the humor she shares on stage. "Most of my jokes are about what it's like to be a mom, a Pacific Islander and the life I lead," she said.

"Saipan will always be home for me," she said, "But I love my community. I'm comfortable here [in West Seattle]."

Mona's next show is on Dec. 6 at Jai Thai on Broadway. You can follow her comical adventures of a Chamorro Gone City at www.kirida.com, on Instagram and Twitter at @kirida or find her Facebook Page Hey Mona! You can even be her friend on Facebook, of course. She would like that.



HANNAH DANFORTH

Mona Concepcion is a stand-up comedian.

2013 PASKONG PINOY

'Kalokalike' is now out, 'That's My Tomboy' in

With only two contestants signing up for its planned "Kalokalike" competition for this year's Paskong Pinoy, the United Filipino Organization has decided to scrap the competition and in its place another popular segment from ABC-CBN's popular variety TV show "Showtime."

"Until now we only got two contestant who registered for 'Kalokalike,' so we will try another contest and that's 'That's My Tomboy' and hopefully we can get at least six contestants since that contest is very popular on Showtime," said UFO president Annamae Adaza.

To sweeten the pot, Adaza said UFO has put up a total prize money of \$1,000: \$500 for first place, \$300 for second place, and \$200 for third place.

The mechanics of "That's My Tomboy" is very simple—contestants only have to introduce themselves and then perform a talent.

"That's My Boy" on Showtime is on channel 22. It features androgynous-looking women or lesbians who look and dress like men.

UFO's 2013 Paskong Pinoy event is slated on Dec. 14, from 2pm to 10pm, at the Garapan Central Park.

The 2013 Paskong Pinoy will have a lantern-making contest and a Christmas singing competition for adults and children.

UFO will also be offering several children's games, raffle drawings, and Philippine cultural dances.

Docomo Pacific is the major sponsor for Paskong Pinoy this year.

For registration for any of the contests, call Nelle Atalig at 233-3854 or 989-3858. Vendors wanting to rent a booth can call Flor Miranda at 785-978 or Lynn Dela Cruz at 789-8386. Tent rental for food is \$40, while non-food vendors are charged \$30.

Those who want to perform can call Minda Castro at 235-4286. UFO is also inviting more sponsors and donors to support the 2013 Paskong Pinoy event.

For any inquiries, contact Adaza at 483-5237 or UFO secretary Mario Mayuga at 285-1021. (Saipan Tribune)

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Fill up at Shell and reward yourself with the chance to win a shopping spree at any Joeten retail location this holiday season! Scan your Lucky 7 Gold card with every purchase of 3-gallons in gas from now until January 24, 2014 and be automatically entered for a chance to win.

Every Friday, beginning Dec. 13th, one (1) Lucky 7 member will win a \$3,000 shopping spree and four (4) Lucky 7 members will win a \$500 shopping spree.



No purchase necessary. Rules apply. See store for details.

Guam bomb experts defuse 500-lb WWII bomb

SANTA RITA, Guam—Sailors from Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5 Det. Marianas successfully performed a render safe procedure at 5:20pm on a World War II-era 500-lb bomb found on the Naval Magazine.

Members of Guam Police Department and Guam Homeland Security/Office of Civil Defense partnered with the Navy to inform the public of the RSP operation, evacuate homes within the safety zone, and restrict public access on Route 5 and 12 immediately outside the Naval Magazine gate entrance.

EODMU-5 identified the World War II era ordnance as an AN-M64 500-lb bomb, which needed to be handled properly before it could be safely transferred out of the area for disposal.

On site the team disarmed the bomb through two separate RSP procedures to disable the nose and tail fuses. As a safety precaution, military and civilian personnel were evacuated outside of a 2150 ft. radius of the unexploded ordnance.

EODMU-5 Det. Marianas officer-in-charge Lt. Dhruv Parashar said that anyone digging in Guam should use caution and, if they find something, to contact authorities and vacate the area to ensure their safety.

"A lot of World War II unexploded ordnance that we handle is found when a construction crew is digging in an area that no one has been in many years," said Parashar. "My advice is if anyone hits something metallic while digging, to take a careful look at what they hit, don't



A World War II AN-M64 500-lb bomb is discovered at a construction site on the Naval Base Guam Naval Magazine on Dec. 3. The unexploded ordnance was rendered safe by sailors from Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5 Det. Marianas on Dec. 5.

LT. DHURV PARASHAR

touch it, and if there is any doubt call 911 and leave the area immediately."

For more information on EODMU-5 Det. Marianas, visit the command's website at <http://www.eodmu5.navy.mil/>. (PR)

USDA accepting value-added producer grant applications

HILO, Hawaii—Applications are currently being accepted for the Value-Added Producer Grant Program. The objective of the program is to help agricultural producers enter into value-added activities related to the processing and/or marketing of bio-based value-added products. Also, to expand markets and increase financial returns to agricultural producers.

An independent producer, farmer or rancher cooperative, agricultural producer group or majority-controlled producer-based business are eligible to apply. Eligible applicants may apply for a planning or working capital grant. The maximum grant per application is \$75,000 and \$200,000, respectively. Completed applications must be received by Feb. 24, 2014.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture remains focused on carrying out its mission, despite a time of significant budget uncertainty. This announcement is one part of the department's efforts to strengthen the rural economy.

For further details about eligibility rules and application procedures, see the notice published on page 70260 of the Nov. 25, 2013, Federal Register or <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-11-25/pdf/2013-28175.pdf>. Additional information may also be found at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/BCP_VAPG.html.

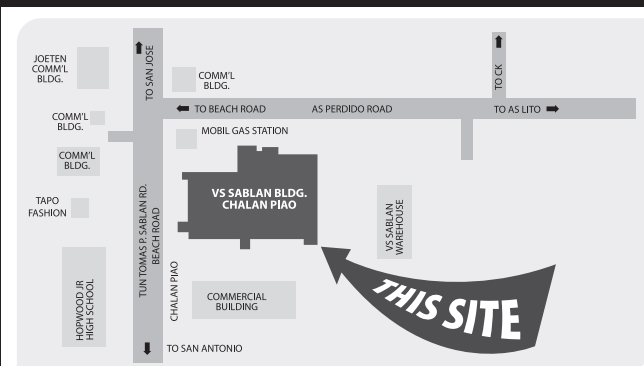
For any questions you may have, contact Anthony Barcinas (671) 300-8567 or anthony.barcinas@pb.usda.gov for projects in Guam and the Western Pacific. (USDA)

3 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged the beaches adjacent to the Tanapag Meeting Hall, Saipan World Resort, and San Antonio lift station and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. Contact DEQ at 664-8500 with any questions. (DEQ)

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First Floor: Three Units Available. 600 sq.ft. at **50¢ per square foot.**

Units on the **Second Floor** are also available at **50¢ per square foot.**

At **Our Chalan Piao Building, VSS PLAZA** we have rental space available on the **first floor** now at **65 cents per square foot** for units ranging from 541 sq. ft. to 1400 sq. ft.

Large 4500 square foot space on the **second floor** that would be ideal for a Daycare Center, Dance Studio or Gym at **35¢ per square foot.**

Second Floor - Office Space, 900 sq.ft. to 1,400 sq. ft. at **50¢ per square foot.**

2nd Floor Office Space (1 Unit) Available at Chalan Kanoa, Above Bank of Saipan - **800 Sq ft per unit at 65 cents per square foot.**

For Lease - **53,500 Sq Meters Available for Lease in Kanat Tabla.**

Ocean View. 31 years Remaining on Lease.

Asking 10.00 per square meter. Negotiable.

- **3,779 Sq Meters Available for Lease at Laulau Bay.**

44 years Remaining on Lease.

Asking \$25.00 per square meter. Negotiable.

Warehouse For Lease - **6750 Square Feet** with

Storage Yard Fenced in Totaling 2000 square meters.

Located at our Chalan Piao location.

Asking \$2,000.00 per month. Negotiable.

Contact Tony Muna (Cell No. 888-9290 Email Address: plebechamp80@gmail.com) or Ben Sablan (Cell No. 898-2454 Email Address: vicente_sablan@yahoo.com) or Call 234-2585.

Healthy Outcomes for Maternal and Early-Childhood (H.O.M.E.) Visiting Program



What is the H.O.M.E. Visiting Program?

- The H.O.M.E. Visiting Program sets out to improve the health and developmental outcomes for mothers, children, and families through home visiting services.

What is the purpose for this program?

- The H.O.M.E. Visiting Program sets out to strengthen the early childhood system in the community and to support families and communities in the development of children who are healthy and ready to learn at school entry. The program strengthens and enhances evidence based curriculum activities, expand and improve coordination, and assure the provision of comprehensive services for families who reside in at-risk communities.

What are the program objectives?

- Promote and maintain positive-child Interaction and family involvement
- Provide and connect families to appropriate resources
- Protect and improve the health, growth and development of every participant served
- Produce and deliver quality service to families in at-risk communities

What Services are provided?

- Prenatal Care Planning
- Basic Baby Care
- Parental Information and Techniques
- Developmental Screening and Activities
- Parent Support
- Infant Massage
- Referrals to appropriate agencies

How can I qualify?

- Enroll Prenatally
- A resident of KAGMAN, KOBLERVILLE, DAN DAN, GARAPAN, SAN ANTONIO
- Upon enrollment child must not exceed the age of 3 months of age
- A standardized tool will be used to identify families who are eligible to enroll and who will benefit from the program.

***At risk communities refer to pre selected villages that include Kagman, San Antonio, Koblerville, Dan Dan and Garapan**



This has been funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Commonwealth Health Care Corporation (CHCC) Division of Public Health H.O.M.E. Visiting Program, for more information please contact 236-8724/40 or simply email us at hvpcnmi@gmail.com.

Ex-Tinian resident honored for saving man's life



JENNIFER JOHNSON/SUN-TIMES

Bradford Wisniewski, left, of Park Ridge, speaks to the crowd at Park Ridge City Hall Monday night after meeting officer Ken King, right, who helped save his life last summer after he suffered a heart attack.

A police officer in Park Ridge, Illinois, who is a native of Tinian, has been recognized with one of the police department's highest honors for helping save a man's life last summer.

According to a report in the Sun Times in Parkridge, officer Ken King was presented with the Lifesaving Award on Dec. 9 for performing CPR on a 62-year-old man who had collapsed on a sidewalk on the night of Aug. 2. The man had no pulse and was not breathing when King arrived, police said.

Sun Times said the man, Bradford Wisniewski, of Park Ridge, spent time in a coma after suffering a heart attack that summer

day, but has since fully recovered and met King for the first time during Monday's City Council meeting, where King was recognized for his heroic actions.

"You can't adequately thank someone for saving your life," Wisniewski said. "People do nice things for people and people have certainly done nice things for me, but doing what he did, being there and knowing what to do, I'll be forever grateful."

A 10-year veteran of the Park Ridge Police Department, King says it was just training that kicked in when he responded to the call and found Wisniewski unconscious on the ground. It

was the first time he used his CPR training in the field.

"It came automatic, because we've done it so many times in training," King told *Sun Times*. "The training just took over."

He called the recognition he received from the police department "unexpected."

"My concern at the time was his life, bringing him back," King said. "If he made it, he made it. But if he didn't, then I tried to give it my best. But I didn't expect to get an honor like this, nor do I try to look for an opportunity like this."

Park Ridge Police Chief Frank Kaminski said the department is "grateful" to have King



JENNIFER JOHNSON/SUN-TIMES

Park Ridge police officer Ken King is congratulated by Mayor David Schmidt after being presented with the police department's Lifesaving Award on Monday night.

among its ranks. "He's truly an inspiration and officer I'm extremely proud of. ...I can't say enough about him."

King is a former resident of Tinian in the CNMI. Prior to relocating to Chicago to give his two children better educational

opportunities, he was a customs officer. He is the son of Serafina R. King-Nabors of Tinian. (*Saipan Tribune*)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW/FHWA-13-IFB-010

ISLAND WIDE ROAD MARKING AND SIGNAGE UPGRADE ROUTE 32 (AS PERDIDO ROAD), PROJECT NO. CM-NH-3000(019), SAIPAN

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Island Wide Road Marking and Signage Upgrade Route 32 (As Perdido Road), Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **November 22, 2013** at Pacific Quick Print & Post, located in Middle Road, Garapan, Saipan. A non-refundable payment to Pacific Quick Print & Post, is required to defray the cost of printing the package.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **December 10, 2013**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **December 23, 2013** to **Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW/FHWA-13-IFB-010"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **January 3, 2014**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **January 3, 2014**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **January 3, 2014** and must be received no later than **January 14, 2014**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, **January 15, 2014**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. local time, on **January 3, 2014**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section **§70-30-3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for

contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- Under penalty of perjury, a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- Cash
- US Gov't Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Fifty (150) working days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed according to Table 108-1 of the standard Specification for Construction of Roads and Bridges on Federal Highway Projects, FP-03

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Wakin's Bldg., Gualo Rai, Tel. 234-7145/7146/6293/6245
Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR BOND TRUSTEE SERVICES 2013-CDA-07-RFP Friday, December 6, 2013

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 3, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider through the Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA), are soliciting proposals for bond trustee services.

The original and six (6) copies of a proposal must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m., Chamorro Standard Time (Chst) on Thursday, December 26, 2013. No proposals will be accepted after that date and time. Proposals shall be in sealed envelopes marked "Proposal for Bond Trustee Services" and delivered to the attention of:

Mr. Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement and Supply (P&S)
Department of Finance
Government of the Northern Mariana Islands
Lower Base
Saipan, MP 96950

Copies of the RFP package may be obtained from the CDA office, CDA Building in San Jose, Saipan. Electronic copies of the Proposal will not be accepted. The CDA reserves the right to reject any proposal that in its sole determination is not in the best interest of the CNMI Government.

/s/ Manuel A. Sablan
CDA Executive Director

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, P&S

Hyatt Christmas tree goes local



Designer Sophie Chin and Hyatt marketing and communications assistant manager Luis Villagomez pose beside the wish funnel made out of *talaya* and LED lights.

Hyatt Regency Saipan lit up its Christmas tree on Monday to usher in the start of the holiday season at the Garapan landmark.

However, unlike previous years when the décor of the over 20-foot symbol of Christmas was made up of the typical multi-colored plastic Christmas balls and the usual shiny ribbons and tussles, this year’s Christmas tree had a decidedly more local look to it.

This is thanks to local designer Sophie Chin, who Hyatt contracted this year not only to decorate its Christmas tree but also design the international brand hotel’s other Christmas fixtures.

Using young coconuts, flame tree pods, and other local materials, Shin

transformed the Hyatt Christmas tree into an entirely unique design that hits the holidays closer to home with the use of indigenous materials.

Aside from her work with the Christmas tree, Shin also fashioned a wish funnel at the Hyatt lobby using local fishnets called *talaya* and LED lights. Another soft sculpture made of *talaya* and Christmas lights adorn the entrance to the hotel.

“We want to use elements with local inspiration. For example, you see the flame tree pods and young coconut. When you come here you may notice that we use fishnet and LED lighting to create this soft sculpture, which kinds of mimic a *proa* and manta ray at the garden,” said Shin.

It took her three months to set up everything.

Shin graduated from Taipei’s Fu Jen Catholic University and majored in landscape architecture.

Hyatt general manager Nick Nishikawa is all praises for Shin’s work and said her designs made great use of local materials without compromising on the aesthetic quality of the decor.

“The theme of our Christmas decorations this year is island-style. You can see the coconuts, flame tree pods. It’s different from the ordinary Christmas tree.”

The lighting ceremony started at a little past 6pm with residents and tourists in attendance. Hyatt also




Tourists pose in front of the Hyatt Regency Christmas Tree shortly after Monday night’s lighting ceremony.

again invited families of beneficiaries of the Make-A-Wish Foundation to join the celebration.

“Every year we do this beginning December—Dec. 1st or 2nd. We al

ways invite Make-A-Wish children to switch on the lights of the Christmas tree. I want them to enjoy the lighting ceremony with us,” said Nishikawa. *(Mark Rabago)*



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
TO LEASE AND OPERATE A LIMITED FOOD
& BEVERAGE CONCESSION AT THE FRANCISCO
C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

CPA-RFP-003-14

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) invites the submission of proposal to lease and operate a Limited Food & Beverage Concession at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Proposals prepared in accordance with instructions stated in the Request for Proposal (RFP) package will be received and accepted by the CPA until 4:30 p.m., January 6, 2014. Late proposals will not be considered. The CPA is not responsible for late or misdirected delivery of proposals.


The proposal packages and other consideration may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport beginning December 6, 2013 during the hours of 7:30 to 4:30 upon the payment of \$50.00. This payment is nonrefundable. Payments shall be made at the Accounting Office which is located at the 2nd floor on the Departure Terminal in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

One original and two copies of the proposals shall be submitted in a sealed package and clearly marked on the outside "Proposal to Lease and Operate a Limited Food & Beverage Concession CPA-RFP-003-14."

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MARYANN Q. LIZAMA
Executive Director



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
TO LEASE AND OPERATE FOOD & BEVERAGE
CONCESSION AT THE FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

CPA-RFP-004-14

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
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FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MARYANN Q. LIZAMA
Executive Director



LAW OFFICES OF S. JOSHUA BERGER
D'TORRES BUILDING, GARAPAN
P.O. Box 504340
SAIPAN, MP 96950
Phone (670) 235-8060 Fax 235-8070

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION,	CIVIL ACTION NO.: 12-0028
Plaintiff,	NOTICE OF SALE
v.	
ANTONIO TUDELA TORRES (Deceased) and CONSOLACION DLC. TORRES,	
Defendants.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to the Writ of Execution and Order After Hearing issued by the Court in this matter on November 20, 2013, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right and interests of Defendant in and to the following real property:


Lot No. 1760-A-1, located in Chalan Kiya, Saipan, CNMI.

1. **Date, Time and Place of Sale.** The sale is open to the general public (including the Defendant or a representative), and will be held on **Wednesday, December 20, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m. at the entrance to the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger, D'Torres Building, Garapan, CNMI.** Registration for the auction sale will begin at 1:15 p.m.

2. **Change of Terms and Conditions.** The undersigned reserves the right to change the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, before the auction date and time or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, will be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 5th day of December, 2013.

/s/ Micheline W. Brel
MICHELINE W. BREL, Auctioneer
Tel: (670) 235-8060
Fax: (670) 235-8070
E-mail: michbrel@hotmail.com



Geraldine I. Iguel
P.O. Box 5420 CHRB
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 256-1086 & 286-1846

PRO SE

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**IN RE THE GUARDIANSHIP OF) FCD GU
) CIVIL ACTION
RANDY I. GINES, Jr.) NO. 13-0561
)
An Incompetent) ORDER SETTING
By) HEARING ON
GERALDINE ILO IGUEL) PETITION FOR
Petitioner.) APPOINTMENT OF
) GUARDIANSHIP
) FOR INCOMPETENT
) PERSON**

Upon petition of the petitioner, and with good cause appearing therefore, a hearing on the petitioners petition for the appointment as guardian of RANDY I. GINES, born on JUNE 05, 1995, shall be heard on the 12th day of December, 2013 at 10:30a.m. in Courtroom 205A. Petitioner shall cause this order to be personally served on the alleged incompetent person at least 10 days before the hearing. The alleged incompetent person must appear or be produced at the hearing scheduled on the date and time set forth above unless satisfactory proof by affidavit or testimony of a duly licensed physician, surgeon, or medical officer shows that he is unable to attend because of physical inability. Except, that if the alleged incompetent person is a patient at the hospital in the Commonwealth, and affidavit of the medical director of the hospital to the effect that such patient is unable to attend, shall be prima facie evidence of that fact.

It is further ORDERED that Notice of Hearing and nature of the proceedings shall be personally served or mailed at least 10 days before such hearing date to each of the spouse, parents and children, or adult siblings of the alleged incompetent person residing in the Commonwealth. Any relative or friend of the alleged incompetent person may appear and oppose petition.

SO ORDERED this 12th day of November 2013.

/s/ Kenneth L. Govendo, Associate Judge



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Volunteers that packed 280 care packages for the 6th Annual CNMI Operation Homefront Support 2013 pose for a group photo last Saturday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

280 care boxes sent out by Operation Homefront

The 6th Annual CNMI Operation Homefront Support 2013 set a record for how quick it packed its care packages for U.S. servicemen around the world last Saturday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

“The packaging event from this past weekend was phenomenal as we believe we set a record of about an hour to get all the items sorted, into the boxes, and packed with the addresses to be sent abroad. We literally began a little after 8am, but we were done by 9:30am with about 280 collected addresses and boxes ready to be sent out,” said officer-in-charge Nola Hix.

She thanked everyone who donated

items to the CNMI Operation Homefront Support and those who helped pack the care packages.

“It was a terrific turnout and would not be possible without the dedicated students and volunteers who were there to assist us in the morning,” she said.

Hix said the addresses that were collected consisted of CNMI military personnel from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota on reserve or active duty. She said the care packages will be sent to local enlisted servicemen and women stationed abroad in the U.S., Afghanistan, or anywhere in the world.

The packages consist of letters of support from schoolchildren, newspa-

pers, magazines, postcards, T-shirts, local favorite canned foods (Spam, Vienna sausage, Diamond tuna, and Ox & Palm corned beef), local favorite snacks (coconut chips, rice crackers, dried mango, *chicharon*, asparagus biscuits, BinBin crackers), and other items that are unique to the islands.

Companies, organizations, government agencies, and individuals that donated items to the 6th Annual CNMI Operation Homefront Support 2013 include: Xerox, American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, Docomo Pacific and Docomo Pacific TV, IT&E, Bank of Saipan, Bridge Capital, Hyatt Regency Saipan, the office of Delegate

Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, the Governor's Office, Joeten Supermarket, Patrick and Bertha Leon Guerrero, Sen. Pete Reyes, D&Q, MarPac, Genpro, Hafadai Productions, AC Pacific, I Love Saipan, Pacific Saipan, 670 Rocksteady Shop, William S. Reyes Elementary School, Mount Carmel School, Saipan Southern High School, Kagman High School, Marianas High School, Northern Marianas College, Rotary Club of Saipan, Saipan Chamber of Commerce, KSPN News, *Marianas Variety*, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, *Saipan Tribune* and *TAGA Sports*, Glimpses Publications and *Marianas Business Journal*, Bison Relations,

Tops magazines, Seventh Day Adventist Dental Clinic, Get Fit CNMI, Jack Hardy, Power 99 and The Kat 97.9, KKMP, KZMI 103.9, Betelnut Radio, Pacific Trading Co., and Triple J Wholesale.

“On behalf of our CNMI Operation Homefront Support Team we would like to thank all of the businesses and members of the community for their donations toward these efforts. We hope that all of the CNMI enlisted personnel who are to receive the care packages know that we salute them and we appreciate them for all they do. We will keep these servicemen and women in our hearts and prayers for a safe return and we wish them a very happy holiday season from all of us back home,” said Hix. (*Saipan Tribune*)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-14-004

AIRPORT ROAD RESTORATION FOR SAN VICENTE SERVICE AREA EXTENSION PROJECT, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Airport Road Restoration for San Vicente Service Area Extension Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

This work consists of excavation of flowable fill, and installation of asphalt concrete to replace pavement areas cut by CUC to install the San Vicente Service Area Extension Waterline project. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC and the Department of Public Works. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **30 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The Bid Package may be picked-up, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) on an electronic disk file; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **November 27, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Seven (7) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “Airport Road Restoration for San Vicente Service Area Extension Project” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on December 12, 2013**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on December 2, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Procurement & Supply Manager, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant – via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

CHARLES WARREN
Acting Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-14-003

Completion of Installation of a New 500,000 Gal. Diesel Fuel Tank at Power Plant No.1, Saipan

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals (Request for Proposals – RFP) from qualified and experienced Tank erection / installation firms for correction of existing defects, assembly, installation and commissioning a new Above Ground Oil Storage Tank (AST), as per the specifications contained in the proposal document and monitored through a construction management firm and a third party quality control firm, contracted by CUC. The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) and the United States District Court entered into a Stipulated Order Number Two (SO No. 2) for Preliminary Injunctive Relief under Civil Case No. CV 08-0051 (Section 1.1). The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) filed the civil action seeking injunctive relief under the Clean Water Act (CWA), and the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This work shall satisfy the requirement in Section IV, Oil Spill Prevention and Preparedness, Paragraphs # 28 Tank System Integrity Testing Workplan and Implementation for CUC Power plants 1 and 2 and Integrity Inspection Program.

The Saipan Power plant is located in the Lower Base Industrial Area near the Saipan Seaport, in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). The foundation, tank and accessories have been designed by a US based company and the tank assembly kit was supplied to Saipan port by the same company, United Industries Group, CA (UIG) for installation by a local contractor. The previous construction contractor has been terminated due to default and performance issues while the metal work and welding work was in progress. The project is currently in a partially finished state.

The purpose of this RFP is to ensure the CUC is to ensure that the new tank is built to the codes and standards to which it was originally designed, including the corrections necessary, details of which have been described in the RFP and meets the stringent tests and inspections noted therein. Upon being awarded the contract and receiving the Notice to Proceed (NTP), the contractor will complete the correction as provided in the RFP. Following schedules shall be noted by all vendors:

- Contract Award - **February 6, 2014**
- Notice to proceed / site mobilization - **February 13, 2014**
- Tank completion - **July 8, 2014**

The Scope-of-Work and Proposal package will be emailed, upon request, to all interested proposers, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working days, from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM local time, until **December 18, 2013**.

A mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference followed by a site visit is scheduled at the Saipan CUC Power Plant 1, administration building on **December 18, 2013 at 10:00 AM**, to ensure that the contractors are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions. All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the plant site conditions in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or performance of work under the contract.

One (1) Original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-RFP-14-003 - REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL - Completion of Installation of a New 500,000 Gal. Diesel Fuel Tank at Power Plant No.1, Saipan” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **December 31, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Upon award of the contract the Offeror is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – <http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm>. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

A Proposal Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposal. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code, with the proposal.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00am (ChST) on December 20, 2013**, to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., Purchasing Officer via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Petroleum and Compliance Manager, Mr. Andrew Longworth at andrew.longworth@cucgov.org.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the interest of the government.

CHARLES WARREN
Acting Executive Director

Tinian raises over \$1.8K anew for Yolanda victims

Two separate fundraising events on Tinian managed to raise more than \$1,800 anew for relief efforts for victims of Typhoon Haiyan that devastated the central Philippines early last month.

United Filipinos Association on Tinian held a bingo fundraiser last Nov. 30 in collaboration with Tinian CARE Club and the Tinian Mayor's Office.

UniFil president Rodney

Cabarles said the event was a complete success with a total of \$1,389 raised.

He thanked all the officers and members of UniFil who worked hard during the bingo fundraiser. He also thanked the donors for the food and drinks, including Ate Edna of Kerida's, Ate Mercy, Edna Cruz, Susan's Creations, JC Café, and UniFil officers. He also recognized Tinian government department heads that donated prizes in support of the cause.

In the morning of Nov. 30, the Tinian Marianas Lions Club and the National Honor Society and prospective LEOs also held a pledge walk fund-

raiser at Taga Beach.

The LEOs were led by vice president-elect Kyle Sandbergen and treasurer-elect Gizelle Kwon. President-elect Ellimae Almogela was on Saipan to attend the Diocese of CK Youth Camp but she was still able to raise a substantial amount for the cause.

UniFil adviser Paul Madriaga said the students were able to raised \$500 for Yolanda victims; this includes a donation made by Nepal national Kedar Shrestha. He said the money collected would be turned over for endorsement to a chosen beneficiary.

The Tinian Marianas Li-

ons Club also gave free blood pressure check and free blood sugar check to the public in observance of Diabetes Awareness Month on Tinian after the pledge walk.

Members of the island's Lions Club were able to serve 75 individuals. Club president Liz Hofschneider thanked the nurses that volunteered: Sydney Biton, Maricel Cabarles, and Hazel Lenteja.

After the event, the Lions and prospective LEOs had a barbecue for lunch and shared it with the U.S. Marines who stayed after their 5K Fun Run that same morning.

Hofschneider also thanked those who donated: Lot

Bunao of JC Café for the chicken, Vivian Hofschneider for the pork ribs, Paul Madriaga for the water, Jackie Mendiola for paper products, Susan Cruz, Jonah Lagota, Fely Almogela for the food, and the St. Michael's Day Care staff for helping.

Cabarles also gave thanks to Patrick San Nicolas and staff of SN-5 for shipping free of

charge the 60 boxes of assorted canned goods, used adult and kids clothing, blankets, and shoes donated by the Tinian community for Haiyan victims. The donation was shipped early this week and received by LBC Mabuhay on Saipan through the help of United Filipino Organization president Annamae Adaza. *(Saipan Tribune)*



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

▲ Tinian Marianas Lions Club and the National Honor Society and prospective LEOs pose after holding a pledge walk fundraiser at Taga Beach last Saturday.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Nepal national Kedar Shrestha donated money for the fundraiser.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Patrick San Nicolas and staff of SN-5 shipped free of charge the 60 boxes of assorted canned goods, used adult and kids clothing, blankets, and shoes donated by the Tinian community for Haiyan victims.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

▲ Lions and prospective LEOs had a barbecue for lunch and shared it with the U.S. Marines who had a 5K Fun Run the same morning.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

United Filipinos Association on Tinian held a bingo fundraiser last Nov. 30 in collaboration with Tinian CARE Club and the Tinian Mayor's Office.

REGAL CINEMAS
Bargain Shows (I) ★ Pass/Discount Restrictions Apply
REFILLABLE POPCORN BUCKET \$3 REFILLS ALL YEAR LONG!

SAIPAN MEGAPLEX 7
Near Joeten Superstore in San Jose MP
1-800-FANDANGO 1484#

Captain Phillips (PG13)
Fri: (4:10PM), 7:10PM, 10:05PM.
Sat: (1:10PM), (4:10PM), 7:10PM, 10:05PM.
Sun: (1:10PM), (4:10PM), 7:10PM.
Mon: (4:10PM), 7:10PM

Delivery Man (PG13)
Fri: (4:30PM), 7:20PM, 9:50PM.
Sat: (1:35PM), (4:30PM), 7:20PM, 9:50PM.
Sun: (1:35PM), (4:30PM), 7:20PM.
Mon: (4:30PM), 7:20PM

Free Birds (PG)
Fri, Mon: (4:15PM)
Sat, Sun: (1:45PM), (4:15PM)

Frozen (PG)
Fri: 7:45PM, 10:15PM.
Sat: (2:45PM), 7:45PM, 10:15PM.
Sun: (2:45PM), 7:45PM.
Mon: 7:45PM

Frozen 3D (PG)
Fri, Mon: (5:15PM)
Sat, Sun: (12:15PM), 5:15PM

Homefront (R)
Fri: 5:30PM, 7:55PM, 10:25PM.
Sat: (12:30PM), (3:00PM), (5:30PM), 7:55PM, 10:25PM.
Sun: (12:30PM), (3:00PM), (5:30PM), 7:55PM.
Mon: (5:30PM), 7:55PM

Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG13)
Fri: (3:30PM), (6:30PM), 7:00PM, 10:00PM, 10:30PM.
Sat: (12:10PM), (3:45PM), 6:30PM, 7:15PM, 10:00PM, 10:30PM.
Sun: (12:10PM), (3:45PM), 6:30PM, 7:15PM.
Mon: (3:45PM), 6:30PM, 7:15PM

Thor: The Dark World (PG13)
Fri, Sat: (4:00PM), 10:20PM.
Sun, Mon: (4:00PM)

Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG13)
Fri, Mon: 7:15PM.
Sat, Sun: (1:00PM), 7:15PM

Times For 12/06 - 12/09 www.REGmovies.com

Chengdu travel agents tour Saipan

Asiana Airlines, Century Tours, and the Marianas Visitors Authority welcomed nine travel agents from Chengdu, China on a FAM(iliarization) tour of Saipan last week, Nov. 26-29. Chengdu is the largest city and capitol of Sichuan Province in southwest China.

"The group said they were very impressed with Saipan, our beautiful ocean, and the friendly people they met here," said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman. "Because Sichuan Province is land bound, people in Chengdu love traveling to the tropics on vacation. They want to see and enjoy the ocean and warm sunshine, like we offer in Saipan, Tinian, and Rota."

While on Saipan, the group inspected several hotels, including Hyatt Regency Saipan, Kanoa Resort, Saipan World Resort, and Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort. The group lodged at Fiesta Resort & Spa. Other activities on their itinerary included a tour of American Memorial Park and Micro Beach, a submarine tour, an island tour, a jungle tour, Fiesta Resort & Spa dinner show, water sports at Managaha, lunch at 360 Revolving Restaurant, a sunset dinner cruise on Puti'on Saipan, and visiting DFS Galleria, I



Marianas Visitors Authority marketing specialist Laura Hsiao, at front center, welcomed Asiana Airlines and Century Tours nine travel agents from Chengdu, China on a FAM(iliarization) tour of Saipan on Nov. 26-29, 2013. Their tour included a visit to Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort.

Love Saipan and other stores in downtown Garapan. The FAM tour will allow the participants to have first-hand knowledge when selling the destination to potential visitors.

Two of the agents advised

there are only six golf courses in Chengdu to accommodate an estimated 50,000 golfers, so golf tours to the U.S. are popular. The agents said there was great potential for tours to the Northern Marianas for

golf and wedding/honeymoon niche markets.

Also, upon special request of the group to experience indigenous culture and tradition, authentic Chamorro and Carolinian dances were performed at their welcoming dinner at Kanoa Resort. (MVA)



HELPING HANDS

American Red Cross-NMI Chapter executive director John Hirsh, left, receives a check from Saipan International School's National Honor Society president Clay McCullough-Stearns, center, and Student Council president Michael Johnson, Thursday, Dec. 5, at the NMI Chapter office. The donation will go toward supporting victims in the Philippines who were affected by Super Typhoon Haiyan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sister caught on camera denies stealing earrings

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: My parents and sister live three hours away, so my family stays with me when they come to town. Over the last few years, I noticed things began to disappear from my home. They are usually small and portable—earrings, in particular.

The idea of someone stealing from me was very upsetting. When I mentioned it to my sister, she suggested that it could be our housekeeper.

After my wedding band vanished, I had a security camera installed. A few months later, two more pairs of earrings went MIA, so I had the surveillance company review the tapes. It turns out the thief is my sister!

The idea that she has gone through my things and helped herself with no remorse after I opened my home to her disgusts me. When I confronted her, she denied it. She later told my mother that she did take the earrings, but didn't know why I wanted them "because they were so ugly."

Christmas is coming and I can no longer welcome her to my home. Why would she do this to me?

Dear Abby

TRUSTED MY SISTER IN RALEIGH, N.C.

DEAR TRUSTED: Not knowing your sister, I can't say for certain why she would steal from you. She may have kleptomania and be unable to control her impulses. Or, she may resent you for what she perceives you have that she doesn't (a happy life, lovely home, etc.) and has been taking the items to "even things up."

While I don't blame you for being upset, please understand that whatever her reason, she's a troubled woman who needs help. Unless you lock up anything of value, she should not be in your home.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: We are part of a group of couples who meet monthly at one another's homes to play cards. We usually play in the evening from 7 to 11 with the hosting couple providing light refreshments and dessert. Many years ago, one couple designated December as "their" month to celebrate New Year's Eve. We start earlier with a meal and end after midnight.

The issue is that it has lost its appeal. Many of us would prefer not to be out on that particular night. How do we, as a group, let them know we no longer want to have game night on New Year's Eve without hurting their feelings? They tend to be a sensitive couple.

PARTIED OUT IN OREGON

DEAR PARTIED OUT: Unless one of you is willing to be the messenger and speak for the rest of you, you should tell this couple as a group—well before the end of the year—that you would prefer not to be out on a night when many of the drivers on the road have been drinking. It's a valid reason.

While the New Year's Eve card game may have become a tradition, times change, and as people mature they tend to make more mature decisions. The one you're making ranks high among them.

P.S. There should be no hurt feelings if you suggest that the card game take place at some other time.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 58-year-old male. My wife divorced me last year after 33 years of marriage. Must I wait the recommended seven years before dating? I heard I must wait one year for every five I was married.

READY OR NOT IN MICHIGAN

DEAR READY OR NOT: I wonder where you heard that! The answer is no. At 58, you had better start soon. You're not getting any younger.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

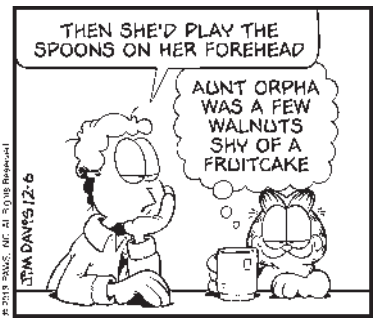
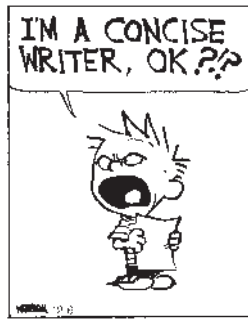
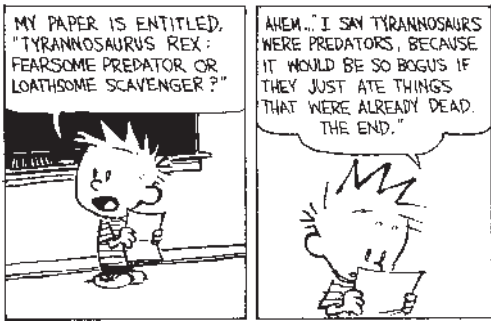
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

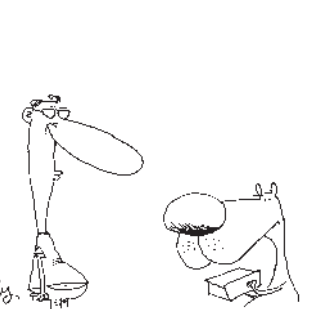
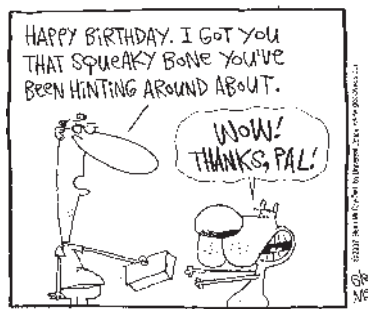
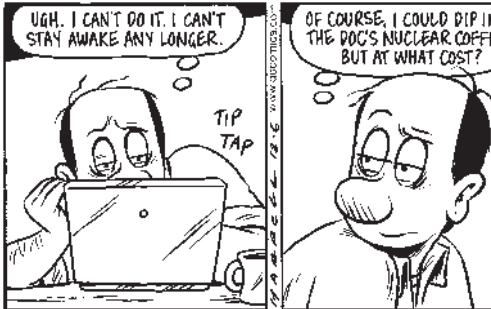


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

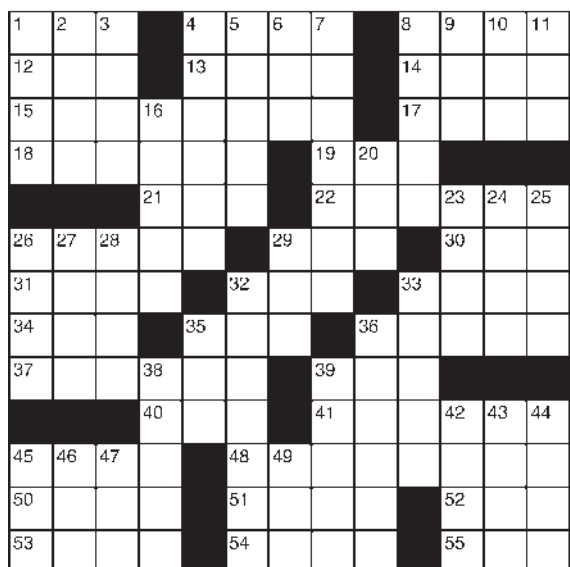
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Grass-hopper's rebuker
- 4 The Bee —
- 8 Dull sound of impact
- 12 Witness
- 13 Nervous
- 14 Deserve
- 15 Force
- 17 Talkative starling
- 18 Maximally
- 19 Grail
- 21 Existed
- 22 Choice
- 26 Attack from all sides
- 29 Modern navigation aid
- 30 Buddy
- 31 Leaf angle
- 32 Cohort of Larry and Shemp
- 33 Japanese soup
- 34 Brooks or Blanc
- 35 Chic, in a 1960s way
- 36 Buffalo
- 37 Director's call
- DOWN**
- 39 Heavy weight
- 40 "Ostentatious?"
- 41 Jinx
- 45 Grate
- 48 Response, on "Jeopardy!"
- 50 Chills and fever
- 51 One
- 52 Phi-psi link
- 53 Shoe part
- 54 Dumbo's "wings"
- 55 "Guinness Book" suffix
- 1 On the briny
- 2 Immediately upcoming
- 3 Abound
- 4 Tries to prove
- 5 Redacts
- 6 Id counterpart
- 7 Faint
- 8 Lure
- 9 Meal for a horse
- 10 Coffee vessel
- 11 Parentage proof
- 16 Wheel on a spur
- 20 Boom times
- 23 Long-legged bird
- 24 Roughly
- 25 Middy
- 26 The Crimson Tide
- 27 One of the brass
- 28 Bank deposit?
- 29 Deity
- 32 "Precious"
- 33 North Dakota city
- 35 Cattle call
- 36 Raises
- 38 Urge
- 39 "... finest hour"
- 42 "Gallop-ing dominoes"
- 43 Aahs' mates
- 44 Not procrastinating
- 45 "Go, team!"
- 46 Time of your life?
- 47 Jane's "Glee" role
- 49 Italian article

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 12-6



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lindsay Price, 37; Judd Apatow, 46; Tom Hulse, 60; JoBeth Williams, 65.

Happy Birthday: Use your innovation and understanding to enlist others to help with whatever you take on. Your ability to zigzag your way in and out of whatever you face will show great strength, courage and responsibility. You can get ahead if you don't display rigidity and if you are willing to put in the hours required to finish what you start. Your numbers are 2, 8, 14, 24, 29, 33, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Re-evaluate your choices. Make a list of what you have to offer and you'll realize how you can tailor your services to a wider variety of clients. Spruce up your living quarters or alter your personal routine. Don't overindulge. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Emotions coupled with stubbornness will hold you back. Shake off any ill feelings you might have and project a positive image if you want things to fall into place. Romance will improve a relationship that's important to you. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep moving. You have no time to waste if you want to take advantage of the offers being made. A partnership appears to be undergoing positive changes that can increase your security and improve your lifestyle. Make travel plans. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Lean toward unusual events and activities. The more you do to stretch your creative imagination, the more you will have to offer. Avoid

overspending or making impulsive purchases if you go shopping. Self-improvement projects will bring good results. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't let emotional confusion hold you back. Get into the swing of things and enjoy getting together with friends. A change of plans or visiting or participating in a new place or activity will enhance your outlook. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A unique approach to a job you've been asked to do will bring you good fortune. Don't let a domestic problem cost you time and money. Make your choice clear and move on. Truth may be an issue. Check and present facts. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may be in demand when it comes to giving advice, but be careful when dealing with emotional matters. What you say may be misconstrued as meddling, resulting in changes you will be forced to acknowledge and deal with. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't leave anything to chance. As long as you stay on top of matters, you will have nothing to fear and no regrets. Dress your surroundings up to suit your personality, but don't lose sight of the costs involved. Make romantic plans. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Memories will get you thinking about old friends. Make arrangements to reunite with someone you miss. Consider altering your current domestic situation. You can make a move, but be careful you don't take on more than you can afford. ****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): High energy and a little finesse will get you into the game, but keeping you there will be another story. An impulsive move may appear to be your best choice but, you are likely to have regrets. Focus on love, not money. ***



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't wait for someone to make choices for you. Jump in and do whatever has to be done in order to avoid delays or restrictions due to someone's lack of transparency. Emotions must not be ignored. Listen to your heart. ***



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Dealing with institutions will be difficult. Getting the information you need isn't likely to fall into place easily. Misdirection and false accusations are apparent. Do your own legwork and get the facts before you make a permanent move. Better to be safe than sorry. ***



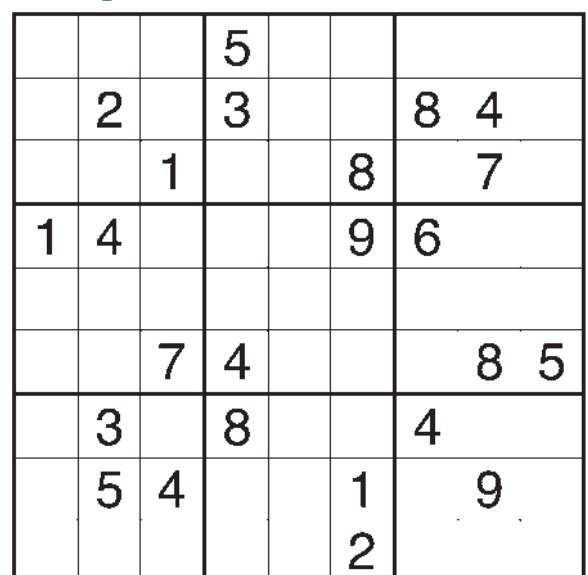
Birthday Baby: You are outgoing, entrepreneurial and charming. You are unpredictable and adventuresome.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](http://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

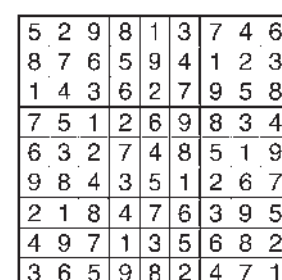


Difficulty Level ★★★★★

12/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

12/05

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SOUTH AMERICAN FARMING

Solution: 5 letters



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12/6
Agriculture, Arable, Beef, Beeswax, Breed, Calcium, Cereals, Climate, Corn, Crop, Dairy, Domestic, Export, Farm, Fertile, Field, Flat, Flax, Harvest, Hectare, Herd, Land, Lemon, Native, Natural, Nitrogen, Oats, Orange, Pastures, Pigs, Plant, Plough, Potatoes, Ranches, Rice, Rich, Rotate, Rural, Seed, Sheep, Soil, Soybeans, Temperate, Till, Vegetables, Wheat, Wool
Yesterday's Answer: Iron Age
Purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 35, 36, 37 or 38 for the holidays by calling 1-800-842-0490. Order online at wonderword.universaluk.co.uk.

CLASSIFIED ADS



WHATZIT Solution: Try it on for size

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

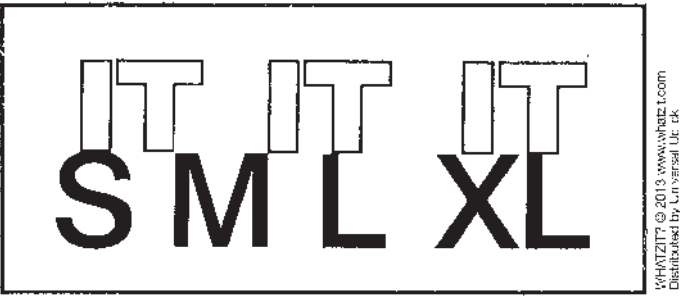
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in classified section



Kanoa Resort

Saipan

Part-time Entertainer

Kanoa Resort is looking for a Part-time Entertainers. Groups, duets and solo performers are welcome to apply. For interested applicants, please contact Ms. Cory Quing at (670) 234-6601 ext. 701 or (670) 287-6011.

Earn extra this Christmas! Call now for audition schedule.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 – HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC

Applicant must perform a full range of maintenance, repair and service activities on heavy equipment including but not limited to heavy duty trucks, excavators, graders, cranes, backhoes/loaders, tractors, bulldozers. Must have knowledge in overhauling and troubleshooting of heavy equipments and must have the ability to request and order parts. At least (4) years minimum experience.

1 – AUTOMOTIVE ELECTRICIAN

High school diploma with minimum (4) years work related experience. Must be able to diagnose and identify electrical problems using test instrument. Ability to analyze, troubleshoot and install electronic or programmable controllers, motor starters. Rewind electric motors transformers and generators. Knowledge on preventive maintenance system.

1 - ARCHITECT

Applicant must possess college diploma with (8) years minimum experience as architect. Must be computer literate, experience and thorough knowledge in as-built and shop drawings using autocad operation required.

1 – PAINTER

At least (4) years minimum work related experience in construction and heavy equipments. Must have knowledge in hand and power tools.

Interested qualified applicants submit complete application or resume and latest police clearance via e-mail at saipan@aicconstruction.com or mail to AIC Marinas, Inc. PMB 564 PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950. Closing date: 12/11/2013

LCD & Plasma TV Repair

Samsung, Philips, Vizio...etc

Call for more information
233-5641

Open: Monday-Saturday
9:00am - 7:00pm

www.calvatron.net

URGENT HIRE

(1) General Maintenance Worker
(1) Cook

Salary: \$5.55/hr with 2 years experience.

O2 Scuba & Resort, Inc.
Call: 322-0102, or
E-mail: o2scuba@hanmisaipan.com

American K&W Corporation
PMB 978 BOX 10001 Saipan, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Manager - Salary: \$1,000.00 p/m
(1) Assistant Manager - Salary: \$5.55p/h
(2) Kitchen Helper - Salary: \$5.55p/h

High School graduate. 3-5 years experience. Knowledge in Chinese and Japanese languages a plus.

If interested, email thomaschong@gmail.com

Vacancy Announcement

(1) Trash Collector - Atleast High School graduate. With valid driver's license. Needs to be physically fit and willing to work flexible time and must be hardworking.

Submit Applications To:
AYD Services Inc. Tel. # 235-7011

TUTOR NEEDED

- Minimum of 4 hours sometime in the afternoon on Saturdays.
- Preferably a Female Tutor.

Subjects requested are:
High School Algebra I, II, and III and Physical Science

Contact Ray at 235-1425 (Home) or 789-1636 (Cell)

Cars For Sale

Leaving Saipan

2 Toyota Coronas - 1990 and 1992
Both cars in very good condition
Price \$1,500 and \$1,200
Call For Test Trip - 285-7731 or 785-8259

MAKE-A-WISH

Visit us at 866 S. Marine Dr.,
Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel. (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-5293
Email: makeawish@me.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

EMPLOYMENT

1 Scuba Diving Instructor. \$5.55/hr Min 5 yrs exp. Must speak, write & read Japanese. Certified by PADI. Naporì Shoukai Inc. Tel: 322-2320

SAN VICENTE ESTATE – (1) Commercial Cleaner. 3-5 years experience. Valid Driver's License. Police clearance required. Email resume to cisco.cnmi@yahoo.com

WANTED TO BUY

We buy used cars! Accepting all make and models from 97' & up. Call 287-8688 DPA CAR MART

LOOKING FOR COMPANION

American Gentleman wants to meet a nice woman. Call Fred at 287-5522 or Email at fredetank@gmail.com

CAR FOR SALE

2007 Nissan Maxima. 34K Miles. Good Condition. Serious inquiries only. Call Sam at 234-6533.

Sheu's Brothers Holding Co. LTD
P.O. Box 502997 Saipan, MP 96950

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Inventory Clerk

Salary \$5.55/hr. 3 years experience. Flexible working hours. Japanese/Chinese speaking a plus. If interested, email thomaschong@gmail.com

Vacancy Announcement

(1) Accounting Clerk-Atleast 2 yrs. experience. Proficient in various computer software, such as MS Excel, Word, Peach Tree & other Accounting Softwares.


Submit Applications To:
Saipan Apparel Printing, LLC. (670)235-1680

HELP WANTED

BODY & FENDER MAN - 1

Call Joe at 234-6842, or visit SASCO Bldg., Middle Rd, Garapan

www.saipantribune.com



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 13-055 Opening Date: Wednesday, December 4, 2013
Closing Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Trades Foreperson

(Electrical)

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Serves as a foreperson, leading a team of workers - assigning and monitoring work and providing technical direction. Trouble shooting and problem solving. Plans work and prepares daily schedules and submits for approval. Responsible for team output and productivity. Performs inspections and monitors subordinates' work. Responsible for safety and enforcing CUC policies within the team. Performs inventory spot checks on tools, parts and materials; processes requisitions for necessary tools, parts and materials. Prepares and submits weekly and monthly reports. Provides technical advice and performs journeyman level operations and maintenance level work in the service area assigned. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)

SALARY : \$21,104 to \$30,601 per annum; un-classified; un-graded.


POSITIONS : One (1).

CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma or General Education Diploma or Adult Basic Education. Four years of journey-level experience at the level of a Trades Technician (Electrician), or comparable experience related to the Power Generation area assigned—electrical, and including one year of experience leading a crew. Graduation from a Vocational/Technical Institution as an electrician. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Mathematics for Technicians. Skill in: Preparing daily schedules, prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Trouble shooting; Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level operations and maintenance in service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 13-056 Opening Date: Wednesday, December 4, 2013
Closing Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Trades Technician

(Operator)

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Provides direction to Trades Assistants to include assigning and monitoring tasks and providing direction. Performs journey level operations, maintenance and/or repairs in the service area assigned. Install new plant and equipment. Operate and maintain plant and equipment. Performs preventative maintenance in service area assigned. Maintains level of supplies and equipment. Performs control room operations and load dispatch. Monitor and balance generator and feeder loads. Start up and synchronize generator sets. Monitoring lubrication oil and fuel consumption. Check and monitor engine oil and cooling water temperatures and pressures. Check and monitor bearing, exhaust gas and charge air temperatures. Record readings and report generator and feeder trips to plant management. Prepare switching programs and coordinate distribution line switching for plant and field staff. Monitoring loads on feeders and generators. Incinerating used oil and carry out SPPC plan routine work. Perform preventive maintenance and overhauls on plant and equipment. Troubleshoot and rectify faults on plant and equipment. Test and calibrate equipment. Condition monitoring and routine testing of generators, transformers and motors. Perform housekeeping duties. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)

SALARY : \$17,282 to \$25,059 per annum; un-classified; un-graded.

POSITIONS : Six (6).

CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education and four years of increasingly responsible and proven experience in the trade—in this case operator. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. Skill in: Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations in assigned service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

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Warehouse for RENT

REM GUALO RAI
Warehouse #3 - Size: 4,000sq/ft
\$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable

REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #2 - Size: 9,000sq/ft
Warehouse #2 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
\$0.45 per sq/ft. Negotiable

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

For Rent

2 Bedroom Condo, Anaks Resort
A/C, R/O Water, Washer/Dryer,
Pool, Tennis Court,
24 HR Security, Centrally Located
Call Ron at 322-4785 or 483-4785

We Buy Broken Electronics!

**Laptops, Tablets, Smart
Phones and Game Consoles**

Yan Store
Call 233-6687/287-6686
Located across 13 Fishermen.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR**

Must be College graduate with a 4-year degree & at least 2 year experience of property management, pawnshop and real estate. Knowledgeable in real estate and drilling operations, gold acid testing and QuickBooks preferred.

BUSINESS SUPPORT SPECIALIST

College graduate with a 4 year degree or with at least two year experience in Western Union, Real Estate, Pawnshop and Drilling business. Has excellent customer service and organizational skills and skilled in dealing with financial and numeric data.

WELL DRILLER

Minimum of 5 years experience of monitoring water well drilling & boring holes. Must have excellent knowledge & skill in well service & well drilling using different methods & other necessary drilling equipment, tools & machines. OSHA & HAZWOPER certification are required.

ASSISTANT DRILLER

Minimum of 4 years experience of monitoring water well drilling & boring holes. Must have excellent knowledge & skills in well servicing & well drilling using different methods & other necessary drilling equipment, tools & machines. OSHA & HAZWOPER certification are required.

DRILLER HELPER

Minimum of 4 years experience of monitoring water well drilling & boring holes. Must have excellent knowledge & skills in well servicing & well drilling. OSHA & HAZWOPER certification are required.

CONSTRUCTION LABORER

Minimum of 5 years experience of performing tasks involving physical labor in well construction & real estate development projects, specializing in water well drilling projects & commercial and residential property maintenance service. OSHA & HAZWOPER certification are required.

Alexander Incorporated
Alexander Building, Beach Road, San Jose,
Saipan MP 96950
For inquiries, please call 234-5117.

**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation****JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT****JVA No. 13-057****Opening Date: Wednesday, December 4, 2013****Closing Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2013****Trades Technician****(Mechanic)**

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Provides direction to Trades Assistants to include assigning and monitoring tasks and providing direction. Performs journey level operations, maintenance and/or repairs in the service area assigned. Install new plant and equipment. Operate and maintain plant and equipment. Performs preventative maintenance in service area assigned. Maintains level of supplies and equipment. Performs control room operations and load dispatch. Monitor and balance generator and feeder loads.. Start up and synchronize generator sets. Monitoring lubrication oil and fuel consumption. Check and monitor engine oil and cooling water temperatures and pressures. Check and monitor bearing , exhaust gas and charge air temperatures. Record readings and report generator and feeder trips to plant management. Prepare switching programs and coordinate distribution line switching for plant and field staff. Monitoring loads on feeders and generators. Incinerating used oil and carry out SPCC plan routine work. Perform preventive maintenance and overhauls on plant and equipment. Troubleshoot and rectify faults on plant and equipment. Test and calibrate equipment. Condition monitoring and routine testing of generators, transformers and motors. Perform housekeeping duties. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)
SALARY : \$17,282 to \$25,059 per annum; un-classified; un-graded.
POSITIONS : Ten (10)
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education and four years of increasingly responsible, proven experience in the trade—in this case mechanic. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. Skill in: Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations in assigned service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation****JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT****JVA No. 13-058****Opening Date: Wednesday, December 4, 2013****Closing Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2013****Trades Technician****(Electrician)**

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Provides direction to Trades Assistants to include assigning and monitoring tasks and providing direction. Performs journey level operations, maintenance and/or repairs in the service area assigned. Install new plant and equipment. Operate and maintain plant and equipment. Performs preventative maintenance in service area assigned. Maintains level of supplies and equipment. Performs control room operations and load dispatch. Monitor and balance generator and feeder loads.. Start up and synchronize generator sets. Monitoring lubrication oil and fuel consumption. Check and monitor engine oil and cooling water temperatures and pressures. Check and monitor bearing , exhaust gas and charge air temperatures. Record readings and report generator and feeder trips to plant management. Prepare switching programs and coordinate distribution line switching for plant and field staff. Monitoring loads on feeders and generators. Incinerating used oil and carry out SPCC plan routine work. Perform preventive maintenance and overhauls on plant and equipment. Troubleshoot and rectify faults on plant and equipment. Test and calibrate equipment. Condition monitoring and routine testing of generators, transformers and motors. Perform housekeeping duties. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)
SALARY : \$17,282 to \$25,059 per annum; un-classified; un-graded.
POSITIONS : Three (3).
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education and four years of increasingly responsible, proven experience in the trade—in this case electrical. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. Skill in: Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations in assigned service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation****JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT****JVA No. 13-060****Opening Date: Wednesday, December 4, 2013****Closing Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2013****Assistant Petroleum and Compliance Manager**

DUTIES – The Assistant Petroleum and Compliance Manger (“AM”) shall work under the supervision of the Petroleum and Compliance Manger (also known as the Technical Manager for Oil) or his/her designee. Position shall be primarily responsible for oversight of projects and compliance activities including, but not limited to, oil management in support of the Stipulated Order (SO) of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marian Islands. The AM shall assist the Petroleum and Compliance Manger in overseeing all oil spill prevention, preparedness and response operations, compliance activities and project deliverables on a daily basis, as required by stipulated order. The AM shall also function as the Acting Petroleum and Compliance Manager during the absence or non-availability of the Petroleum and Compliance Manager and will be the person responsible for maintaining regular contact with EPA staff regarding section 311 Clean Water Act compliance, including representation in the US Federal court and before other regulatory agencies. The Petroleum and Compliance Manager my delegate authority to the AM during their absence including authority to make decisions for the management and operations of oil related items required by stipulated order. These examples of duties are not exhaustive, and the incumbent may be required to undertake other duties of similar level and responsibility.

LOCATION : Petroleum and Compliance Office, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : Based on credentials and specialized experience \$55,000.00 to \$74,989.00 per annum.
POSITIONS : One (1).
CONTRACT : Two-year.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- A bachelor’s degree in engineering or natural science.
- 10 years in project administration and management, including overseeing work of contractors and company staff in an executive management position with proven management and communication skills.
- A minimum of three (3) years’ experience in oil spill, prevention, preparedness and response, environmental assessment related to power plant operations, and extensive knowledge of DEQ and EPA regulations.
- 5 years of experience in preparing bid documents or request for quotations and proposals.
- 5 years of experience in contract negotiation and preparation.

Desirable:

- Prior experience of staff training and development.
- Master’s degree in engineering and registration as professional engineer pursuant to the National Council of Engineering Examiners standards in civil, mechanical, environmental or chemical engineering.
- Certification in API tank inspection.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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APARTMENTS FOR RENT**Realty Management Services****Fina Sisu Terraces**

Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **\$250/month.**
2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Ocean View Terraces

(Navy Hill)
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
\$600/month

Sunset View Terraces

(Navy Hill)
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
\$550/month

LNH Apartments

(Lower Navy Hill)
Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. EPA Solar Water Heater.
\$350-\$450/month

FEATURES:

- Fully Furnished
- Back-up Generator
- Air-conditioning in all rooms
- FREE WIFI
- Laundry Area
- Nighttime Security
- Ample Parking
- 24hr water

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235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

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**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation****JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT****JVA No. 13-059****Opening Date: Wednesday, December 4, 2013****Closing Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2013****Stipulated Order II Project Coordinator**

DUTIES - The Project Coordinator (PC) is under the supervision of the Petroleum and Compliance Manger (also known as the Technical Manager for Oil) or their designee. Position will be primarily responsible for oversight of assigned projects and compliance activities including, but not limited to, oil management in support of the Stipulated Order (SO) of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marian Islands. The PC will assist the Petroleum and Compliance Manager in overseeing aspects of oil spill prevention, preparedness and response operations and compliance activities and deliverables on a daily basis, as required by stipulated order. The PC may also function as the Acting Petroleum and Compliance during the absence or non-availability of the Petroleum and Compliance Manager and may be assigned responsibility for maintaining regular contact with EPA staff regarding section 311 Clean Water Act compliance issues, including some representation in the US Federal court and before other regulatory agencies. In the absence of the Petroleum and Compliance Manager, PC may have authority to make decisions for the management and operations of oil related items required by stipulated order. These examples of duties are not exhaustive, and the incumbent may be required to undertake other duties of similar level and responsibility.

LOCATION : Petroleum and Compliance Office, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : Based on credentials and specialized experience \$50,000.00 to \$60,000.00 per annum.
POSITIONS : One (1).
CONTRACT : Two-year

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: A bachelor’s degree or its equivalent in engineering or natural science. (An equivalent is an associate’s degree and two years of direct oil experience; these two years are in addition to that detailed below.) Plus the following:

- 10 years in project administration and management, including overseeing work of contractors and company staff in an executive management position with proven management and communication skills.
- A minimum of three (3) years’ experience with in oil spill, prevention, preparedness and response, environmental assessment related to power plant operations, and knowledge of DEQ and EPA regulations.
- 5 years of experience in preparing bid or request for quotations and proposals.
- 5 years of experience in contract negotiation and preparation.

Desirable:

- Prior experience of staff training and development.
- Certification in API tank inspection.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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Irving, Cavaliers snap Nuggets' win streak, 98-88



CLEVELAND (AP)—Kyrie Irving scored 23 points and the Cleveland Cavaliers snapped the Denver Nuggets' seven-game winning streak with a 98-88 victory Wednesday night.

Tristan Thompson had a career-high 21 rebounds and 17 points for the Cavaliers, who won back-to-back games for the first time this season.

The Nuggets, playing the third game of six-game road trip, lost for the first time since Nov. 18. The trip began with a 14-point win in Toronto on Sunday and a 24-point victory in Brooklyn on Tuesday.

Randy Foye led Denver with 16 points, while J.J. Hickson had 15 points and 11 rebounds.

Anderson Varejao scored a season-high 18 points and had 13 rebounds for Cleveland, which recorded its largest margin of victory this season.

Trail Blazers 111, Thunder 104

In Portland, Ore., LaMarcus Aldridge had a season-high 38 points and added 13 rebounds and Portland snapped Oklahoma City's eight-game winning streak.

Nicolas Batum hit a 3-pointer with 29.9 seconds to go that all but sealed it for Portland, which has won 14 of its last 15 games. The win also snapped Oklahoma City's seven-game winning streak against the Blazers.

Kevin Durant finished with 33 for the Thunder, who were playing the second game of a back-to-back after defeating Sacramento 97-95 Tuesday night.

Batum and Lillard both added 14 points for the Blazers, who were coming off a 106-102 victory over Indiana on Monday. Portland is 8-1 at home this season.

Hawks 107, Clippers 97

In Atlanta, Kyle Korver tied the NBA record for consecutive games with a 3-pointer and scored a season-high 23 points in the Hawks' victory over the Clippers.

Korver, returning from a



Cleveland Cavaliers' Kyrie Irving, center, gets between Denver Nuggets' Ty Lawson (3) and Darrell Arthur (00) during the first quarter of an NBA basketball game on Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2013, in Cleveland.

bruised rib that sidelined him the last four games, tied Dana Barros' NBA 18-year-old record by hitting a 3-pointer in his 89th straight game. Barros set the mark during stints with Philadelphia and Boston from Dec. 23, 1994, to Jan. 10, 1996.

He made his first attempt in the game's first minute and finished 6 for 9 beyond the arc.

Paul Millsap finished with 25 points and Al Horford added 21 to help the Hawks snap a two-game losing streak.

Blake Griffin scored 24 points and Chris Paul had 19 points and 11 assists as the Clippers lost their second straight.

Suns 97, Rockets 88

In Houston, Eric Bledsoe had 20 points and seven assists to lead Phoenix over the Rockets.

PJ Tucker added 18 points on 8-of-13 shooting with six rebounds.

Channing Frye had 14 points on 6-of-12 shooting and grabbed six rebounds, and Goran Dragic chipped in 19 points on 6-of-11 shooting for the Suns, who shot

45.6 percent from the field, including 45.8 percent from behind the arc.

Dwight Howard had 15 points and 18 rebounds, Aaron Brooks added 17 points and six assists, and Omri Casspi had 14 points and seven rebounds for the Rockets, who lost their second straight game.

James Harden finished with 14 points, hitting 3 of 17 from the field and going 0 for 10 from behind the arc. Patrick Beverley had 12 points and eight rebounds.

Pacers 95, Jazz 86

In Salt Lake City, Paul George scored 19 points and Indiana returned to its defensive ways to defeat the Jazz in Utah for the first time since an 84-60 victory on Nov. 29, 2005.

Lance Stephenson scored 15 points, Luis Scola had 14 and Roy Hibbert added 13 points for the Pacers.

Indiana outscored the Jazz 27-19 in the fourth quarter and parlayed 14 Utah turnovers in 20 points.

Gordon Hayward's 3-pointer cut the Indiana lead to 79-76 before the Pacers scored nine straight points, capped by West's 20-foot jumper that just beat the shot clock, and never looked back.

Derrick Favors led Utah with 22 points and 13 rebounds and Enes Kanter had 20 points and 10 boards for the Jazz, who had won three of their last four games.

Mavericks 100, Pelicans 97

In New Orleans, Dirk Nowitzki scored 11 of his 21 points in the fourth quarter, and the Mavericks beat the Pelicans 100-97 Wednesday night.

Nowitzki gave Dallas the lead with a free throw to make the score 98-97 with 32.3 seconds left. He then got a piece of Eric Gordon's driving float-er, grabbed the rebound and hit two more free throws with 8 seconds left.

The Pelicans' Ryan Anderson missed an open 3-pointer

that would have tied it with 2 seconds left.

Reserve Vince Carter had 15 points for Dallas and Monta Ellis added 14 points.

Jrue Holiday had a season-high 26 points for the Pelicans, who played without injured forward Anthony Davis for the second consecutive game.

Pistons 105, Bucks 98

In Milwaukee, Andre Drummond had 24 points and 19 rebounds and the Pistons rode a strong second-half performance to beat the Bucks.

Greg Monroe contributed 18 points and 17 rebounds for the Pistons, who had three players with double-doubles and five score 15 or more points.

Ersan Ilyasov scored a season-high 22 points and had 10 rebounds to lead the Bucks, who have lost 13 of 14. Khris Middleton added 14 points for Milwaukee.

Pistons point guard Brandon Jennings had 17 points and 11 assists in his return to Milwaukee.

Knicks, Nets set for matchup of teams that 'stink'

GREENBURGH, N.Y. (AP)—Start spreading the news. One of New York's bumbling basketball teams is about to win!

The Brooklyn Nets, who have been terrible, host the Knicks, who are even worse, on Thursday night. A national TV audience can witness just how bad things are in the Big Apple.

Or, they can just take it from the people involved.

"Both teams stink," said Nets coach Jason Kidd.

"We are the laughingstock of the league right now," said Knicks forward Carmelo Anthony.

That's not exactly what TNT was hoping for when the schedule came out.

What was supposed to be a matchup that highlighted a growing rivalry between neighboring teams with high expectations has turned into the kind of game that will have fans scrambling for their remote controls in search of a holiday special to watch.

The Nets are 5-13, 13th in the 15-team Eastern Conference but a full game ahead of the Knicks (3-13), who have lost nine in a row. Only the Milwaukee Bucks had a worse record entering play Wednesday.

"You've got two teams that expectations were high coming into the season and we've both have had our struggles," Knicks coach Mike Woodson said. "But again, if they're looking at it like we're looking at it, nobody's running away with the division and I still think our team can win the division."

Yeah, well when rebuilding Boston is currently leading the Atlantic with just an 8-12 record, that isn't exactly saying much.

It wasn't supposed to be this way. The Knicks won the Atlantic last season with 54 victories, the Nets weren't far behind at 49, and both thought they could be even better this time.

The Nets were considered the favorites after acquiring Kevin Garnett and Paul Pierce from Boston and assembling a deep roster with the league's highest payroll—a team that would cost more than \$180 million once luxury taxes were factored in. The Knicks have the league's second-highest payroll, but both teams have been wrecked by early season injuries.

Pierce is out with a broken bone in his hand and Deron Williams has been sidelined by a sprained left ankle, an injury that forced Brook Lopez to miss seven games. The Knicks lost Tyson Chandler to a broken leg in their fourth game, taking away their most valuable defensive player.

So as much as they want to beat each other, both teams realize one game isn't going to undo more than a month's worth of poor performances.

"I think at this point we're trying to figure out who we are and fix this," Garnett said after a 111-87 loss to Denver on Tuesday. "We're at home and getting beat by 30, 40 points. That's not what we want, that's not even close to what we were predicted or where we want to be."

Things were much better for both teams when Kidd was playing last season for the Knicks. New York misses his leadership on the court and in the locker room, and it's been a rocky transition to the Nets' bench, where Kidd has been

fining \$50,000 for intentionally spilling a drink on the court to delay a game. He already shook up his staff, reassigning top assistant Lawrence Frank to a role where he won't be at practices or games.

Woodson said he feels for Kidd, but he's got his own problems. With the Knicks on their longest skid in eight years, the questions about his job security come more frequently.

"I've had the opportunity to come in here and coach a team and turn a team around, and right now we've had our ups and downs, this early season, but am I going to throw in the towel? Absolutely not," Woodson said. "I'm still the coach of this team, we've got a big game tomorrow night, which I think we can win, so we've just got to stay focused and stay the course."

Neither Anthony nor Woodson would disagree with Kidd's assessment of the current state of NBA basketball in New York. It should provide plenty of fodder for Charles Barkley, who likes to needle New Yorkers even in the best of times, and who will call the game with Marv Albert and Steve Kerr.

Anthony wasn't aware the game was on TNT and wasn't concerned much with what will be said Thursday.

"We are the laughingstock of the league right now. It's nothing to hide. We are," he said. "So that's why it is a big game for us."

"Do I like being laughed at? Hell no, I don't like that feeling. But about it being TNT, about them guys mocking us, they've got to do their job. We want to win, that's the only thing that I'm focusing on."

NBA game in Mexico City postponed

MEXICO CITY (AP)—The game between the San Antonio Spurs and Minnesota Timberwolves was postponed Wednesday night because of smoky conditions inside the Mexico City arena.

The matchup will be made up in Minnesota at a later date.

The arena was evacuated about 45 minutes before the scheduled 9:30 p.m. EST tipoff when a generator malfunction outside the arena sent smoke pouring into the building, according to NBA spokeswoman Sharon Lima.

Mexico City Police said in a statement there was a fire in the

generator room on the fourth floor of the modern glass-clad arena that opened in 2012.

"What happened was provoked by a short circuit in the room of generators," the statement said in Spanish.

About 15 minutes after the scheduled start, the Spurs bus pulled away from the building. The Timberwolves bus followed soon after.

While the teams were warming up for their regular-season matchup, lights went out in parts of the arena and smoke began coming out of vents in the upper deck. The court quickly became cloudy.

"I thought they were practicing fireworks, Spurs TV analyst Sean Elliot said. "A lot of teams do that before introductions. But then the smoke just kept creeping and it wasn't white smoke. It was like a brown dark smoke and it started taking over the whole court. It was surprising."

Fans had not yet been allowed into the arena for the NBA's first regular-season game in the country since Houston and Dallas played in Mexico City on Dec. 6, 1997, when the evacuation was ordered. The teams went to their buses, still wearing their practice gear.

NFL fines Steelers coach Mike Tomlin \$100,000



PITTSBURGH (AP)—Here's another adjective Pittsburgh Steelers coach Mike Tomlin can call his ill-timed two-step onto the field last Thursday night against Baltimore.

Expensive.

The NFL fined Tomlin \$100,000 on Wednesday for interfering with Baltimore's Jacoby Jones on a kickoff return in the third quarter of a 22-20 loss to the Ravens on Thanksgiving night.

The fine is the second-highest ever levied by the league on a head coach, behind only the \$500,000 the NFL docked New England's Bill Belichick in 2007 for spying on an opponent's defensive signals.

There is also the chance the Steelers have a draft pick taken away "because the conduct affected a play on the field." Though he was not penalized, the league said the Steelers should have been flagged 15 yards for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Tigers agree to deal with Joe Nathan



DETROIT (AP)—Joe Nathan expects to fit

in just fine in Detroit—and now the Tigers don't have to face the closer who has dominated them more than perhaps any other in baseball.

Nathan agreed with Detroit on a two-year contract with a club option for 2016, enabling the Tigers to accomplish one of their main objectives this offseason by adding one of the game's most accomplished closers to the bullpen. The three-time defending AL Central champions announced the deal Wednesday, two days after trading right-handed starter Doug Fister to Washington. Terms were not disclosed.

"Why would I come here?" Nathan asked rhetorically. "I think the question is, why wouldn't I? This team is ready to win. They're ready to win now. ... It's not just about getting to the postseason. For me, it's about getting to the big one."

Nathan, who turned 39 last month, has never pitched in the World Series. He had 43 saves in 46 chances for the Texas Rangers last season.

It's been a busy offseason already for Detroit, which traded slugger Prince Fielder to Texas for Ian Kinsler in a move that, coupled with the trade of Fister, gave the Tigers more financial flexibility.

Detroit's bullpen was unsettled for much of last season. Joaquin Benoit eventually performed well as the closer, but he is now a free agent.

All that from what Tomlin called an "embarrassing, inexcusable" case of being "mesmerized" while standing in a restricted area that separates the sideline from the playing field and staring at the video board during Jones' 73-yard return.

Jones had to swerve to avoid running into the coach and was tackled during a return that might have gone for a touchdown if not for the obstruction. Tomlin briefly stepped onto the field before he jumped back.

Tomlin insists the "blunder" was not intentional but has no plans to appeal the ruling.

"I apologize for causing negative attention to the Pittsburgh Steelers organization," Tomlin said in a statement Wednesday. "I accept the penalty that I received. I will no longer address this issue as I am preparing for an important game this Sunday against the Miami Dolphins."

Jones didn't blame Tomlin for his own inability to score on the return but said it put the coach and the league in a difficult position.

"I'm not going to lie, it's tough," Jones said. "I can't say he did it on purpose because I don't know what he was thinking. It definitely sends a message across the league. He stepped across the line, which definitely threw it off."

Tomlin said he was following his normal routine on the play and said standing on the 6-foot wide strip is common practice.

New York Giants coach Tom Coughlin didn't disagree. Coughlin drew a 15-yard flag



In this Nov. 28, 2013 file photo, Pittsburgh Steelers coach Mike Tomlin stands on the sideline during an official play review in the second half of an NFL football game against the Baltimore Ravens, in Baltimore.

during the preseason for stepping onto the field during a field goal attempt.

"You find yourself sometimes running down the sideline on the white, but nevertheless, you're not even supposed to be even on the white because the officials have to have access there," Coughlin said. "That is a most difficult thing to absorb."

Tomlin's players leapt to his defense in the immediate aftermath, and safety Ryan Clark allowed he is "always on the field." The 12-year veteran, however, is hardly surprised the NFL is considering taking an extra step of stripping the Steelers of a draft pick.

"It's not supposed to be fair," Clark said. "It's Roger Goodell, so when has he been fair?"

Quarterback Ben Roethlisberger doesn't believe Tomlin's near-trip will serve as a distraction for Pittsburgh (5-7), which remains in the play-off hunt as December begins despite an 0-4 start.

"If anything, guys joke about it more," Roethlisberger said. "They're the ones pulling up the pictures online and joking with coach about something. If anything maybe it's a light-hearted fun thing."

The league will not determine whether to take a pick away from Pittsburgh until after the draft order has been set.

It would be an unprecedented move for a coach getting involved during a live play.

The NFL fined the New York Jets \$100,000 in 2010 when cameras caught strength and conditioning coach Sal Alosi tripping a Miami player on the sideline. Alosi was suspended by the Jets and eventually resigned after the season.

Tomlin is hardly in danger of losing his job, and said Tuesday he had not spoken to team owners Dan and Art Rooney II about the situation.

"I would imagine if the Rooneys thought that I was capable of that or they thought my intentions were that, I wouldn't be sitting at this table talking to

you guys," he said.

Tomlin makes \$5.25 million a season and the fine constitutes less than 2 percent of his annual salary. He can absorb the relatively small financial hit. He's far more concerned about the uncomfortable position he put the league and the Steelers in after failing to get out of the way with any sense of urgency.

"I will take this as an opportunity to strenuously defend the game of football and the NFL. I won't defend myself," Tomlin said. "The people that know me, I don't need to do that. The people that don't know me, they are going to make their judgments any way."

Tomlin's predecessor, Bill Cowher, raised eyebrows but not the ire of the commissioner's office in 1997 when he feigned tackling Jacksonville's Chris Hudson as Hudson

ran back a Pittsburgh field goal attempt for a touchdown on the final play of a 30-21 Jaguars victory.

While Tomlin has no plans to change the way he goes about his business, he plans to do a better job of policing himself. The 41-year-old understands this will stick with him once the furor dies down. His goal is to make sure it doesn't stain the team as well.

"The only thing we can control is our preparation and ultimately our play this week," he said. "That's the now and what's immediately ahead of us. I try to relay that sentiment and attitude to our team, and I think it's something they embrace."

Prosecutor: Sex investigation of FSU QB over



TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP)—

The prosecutor overseeing the investigation of sexual assault allegations against Florida State quarterback Jameis Winston said Wednesday that it is completed.

State Attorney Willie Meggs has scheduled a news conference at 2 p.m. Thursday in his office to announce his findings. Meggs said investigators have learned as much as they can about the December 2012 incident.

"We think we have exhausted all investigative tools," he said.

Winston has led the Seminoles to the No. 1 ranking, and they will play for a conference title Saturday, with a shot at the national crown.

The quarterback also is the leading candidate for the Heisman, and many voters are waiting to see whether Winston will be charged with a crime before

casting their ballots. The deadline for Heisman ballots to be turned in is Dec. 9.

ESPN has previously reported that DNA belonging to Winston was found in the underwear of the accuser. A lawyer for Winston has suggested that the star quarterback and the accuser had consensual sex. But the family of the victim has accused the 19-year-old of rape.

Meggs has said he wanted to make sure prosecutors completed a thorough investigation before making a final decision. He has also said several times that it's up to prosecutors to determine whether there is a "reasonable" chance of conviction.

The fact that Meggs has scheduled a news conference—as opposed to getting a warrant for Winston's arrest—could be seen as a sign that he will not file charges.

Meggs said earlier Wednesday that the end of the investigation should answer some lin-

gering questions about how the investigation was handled and why it took 11 months before prosecutors were notified.

"When you all look at this, when the dust all settles, you'll say 'Man, there were some things that could have been done back in December of '12 that could have cleared this up a whole lot easier than November of 2013,'" he said.

Timothy Jansen, the attorney representing Winston, said he does not know what Meggs will announce.

But Jansen said he hopes that following Meggs' Thursday announcement, Winston will finally address the investigation.

"If he looked at evidence we did, we feel confident he will find that Mr. Winston did nothing wrong," Jansen said.

Patricia Carroll, the attorney representing the accuser, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The alleged sexual assault

was first reported to police in December. The family has said the victim did not know the identity of her attacker until early January, when she identified him as Winston.

The family has been sharply critical of the way Tallahassee police have handled the case. The family says they pushed to have a DNA sample taken from Winston only to be told by a police detective that it would alert Winston and make the case public. The family said Carroll was warned that by police that Tallahassee is a "big football town, and the victim needs to think long and hard before proceeding against him because she will be raked over the coals and her life will be made miserable."

Tallahassee police have defended their handling of the case and said it was placed on inactive status in February after police were told the alleged victim did not wish to

prosecute the case. Carroll has denied that the woman wanted to drop the investigation.

The alleged victim was an FSU student during the December incident, but she left school after Carroll was told by police that information about the case was about to be released to the media.

Associate athletics director for communications Rob Wilson said the university did not have any comment Wednesday. The university is expected to address the matter sometime after Meggs' news conference.

Florida State policy dictates that a student-athlete is suspended from game action if charged with a felony until the charge is resolved "absent extraordinary circumstances as determined by the administration."

Winston was named Atlantic Coast Conference player of the year, offensive player of the year and rookie of the year this week after setting ACC freshman records with 3,490 passing and 35 touchdowns.

Masaru tops Sanyo Shimbun golf tourney

Namba Masaru won the 2013 Sanyo Shimbun Amateur Golf Tournament held last Saturday, Nov. 30, at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Masaru fired the lowest net score among a field of 75 Japanese amateur golfers—41 men and 34 women—in the double Peoria tournament.

He shot a gross of 75 following a front nine of 37 and back nine of 38. Minus his 4.80 handicap, Masaru came away with a tournament-best 70.20 net.

R&C general manager Takayuki Tanaka, who organized the tournament, said it was a perfect win for Masaru because the 75 he shot represented his person-

ally best score. He won both the best gross and best net categories of the yearly overseas tournament.

Japan's No. 1 amateur female golfer, Moriya Atsuko, was without peer in the women's division. She shot a gross of 77 and also managed to finish third in the double Peoria contest.

Masaru, Atsuko, and other winners of the 2013 Sanyo Shimbun Amateur Golf Tournament were feted in an awards banquet Saturday night at the Hyatt Regency Saipan poolside.

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Teno-

rio and 2013 Miss Liberation Day Queen Nicole Ichihara Sablan were present in the awards ceremony.

Sanyo Shimbun general manager Kensuke Shirahige was also in attendance and said every year the company holds the tournament overseas and it's the first time Saipan hosted the competition.

"Golf course is very good and Saipan atmosphere is also good," Tanaka quoted Kensuke as saying.

Tanaka also said because of Sanyo Shimbun's pleasant experience on Saipan, Shirahige is already thinking of holding the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Namba Masaru, 2013 Sanyo Shimbun Amateur Golf Tournament champion, is all smiles after receiving his first place trophy from 2013 Miss Liberation Day Queen Nicole Ichihara Sablan at the award ceremony last Saturday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan poolside.

Island Floral flawless in regular season

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Island Floral prevailed in the battle of undefeated teams, outclassing San Antonio, 66-58, in a make-up game in the 2nd DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Island Floral had a seven-game sweep in the regular season to top Pool B, while San Antonio fell to a 5-1 record and finished the round-robin elimination today when it faces I Love Saipan (2-4). Both San Antonio and Island Floral are assured of the automatic quarterfinals berth, while CJ Signs (4-3), Natural Mystic (4-3), San Roque

(3-4), and I Love Saipan (2-4) are in the first round of the playoffs.

San Antonio and Island Floral resumed their rained-out game at the 7:13 mark of the second quarter with the latter ahead by only a hair, 24-23. Island Floral went on to stretch the lead to as much as 11 points in the fourth period, as Cecilio Bisana, Alex Standish, and Jerome Norita worked together on offense.

San Antonio struggled and clearly missed the services key players Bryle Alegre, Jack Aranda, and Nevin Salem, as the south side team canned only 4 points off J.P. Villanueva's field goals in the remaining minutes of the second canto to face a 27-33 deficit.

Island Floral kept the upper hand in the third, 52-47, with Bisana and Standish making 6 points apiece in that canto, and the team led by as much as 11, 62-51, with Bisana going 4-for-4 from the line past the halfway mark of the final quarter. San Antonio then went on a quick 5-0 scoring run to move within 6,



going into the final two minutes and had a chance to inch closer, but it muffed several triples and an undergoal stab, making only one field goal in the remaining minutes of the game. A baseline layup from Norita sealed it for Island Floral, which melted the clock en route to the 8-point win.

Docomo 68, Fliptop 56

Also clinching the top spot in its group was Docomo.

Docomo finished Pool A with a 6-1 record and got the outright quarterfinals berth, following a 12-point victory over Fliptop, which was eliminated after dropping to a 2-5 record. Joining Fliptop in the showers was Kixx Engine

Oil, while Fong's Bakery (5-2) took the second automatic Round of 8 slot, and NMI Contractor (3-4), Chinatown (3-4), Adobo (3-3), and Saipan Ice (3-3) made it to the first round of the playoffs.

Docomo withstood Fliptop's third-quarter rally and drew a lift from James Villacrusis in the

fourth for the double-digit winning margin. Docomo took a 35-22 halftime edge, as Juan Camacho finished the first 20 minutes of play with 11, but Fliptop trimmed the deficit down to 4, 42-46, thanks to James Sablan's 9 points in the third.

Villacrusis, who was held to one field goal in the fourth, showed up in the fourth, adding 8 more points, while four other Docomo players also hit the board in the playoff period to shut the playoff door on Fliptop.

First Game

Docomo Pacific 68 – Camacho 19, Villacrusis 17, Sanciango 10, Paraiso 9, Sison 5,

board first in the opening game, courtesy of Cabrera's touchdown. However, the Saints countered quickly with Nikolai Balbin running for a 66-yard touchdown and the team having a 2-point conversion to grab the lead, 8-6. The Saints stretched the advantage to 8, 14-6, off two big plays from Troy Ngirarois, who picked up a fumble and went for the touchdown.

Neither team scored in the second quarter, helping the Saints keep its advantage,

which went up to double digits, 16-6, after a safety. The Saints then pulled away further as Balbin had another touchdown after a kick-off return.

In the fourth quarter, the Saints got 2 more points off another bad snap from the Thunder, which finally ended the drought late in the final canto with Suda scoring the touchdown off a 70-yard pass from quarterback Donovan Rebuénog. Jimmy Laniyo had a 2-point conversion for the Thunder to peg the final score.

cure their pets.

Meanwhile, participants can pick up their race packet from 2pm to 6pm at the lobby (west conference room) of Mariana Resort. The race will start at 6:15am and the first finisher is expected to reach Mariana Resort around 9:30am.

LATE

From Page 32

It was the Lightning anew that attacked first in the third period with Ada making a 12-yard pass to Angailen for their fourth TD in the game and a 34-6 lead. However, the Thunder managed to trim the deficit to 16 after making back-to-back TDs to end the third. Again, Cabrera anchored the Thunder's offense, passing to defensive tackle Franco Bondoc for the team's second touchdown.

HELL

From Page 32

last night (9pm).

Men's defending champion John Anderson of Australia is missing this year's 100-kilometer race, as he was very sick, ac-

MARIANAS

From Page 32

coach, while Johann Noetzel is the goalkeeper coach. Other officials of the squad are assistant coaches Takemoto Suzuki and Ruselle Zapanta and team manager Derek Chambers.

Dominic Gadia will call the shots for the visiting team and will be assisted by Mark Anthony Chargualaf. The Guam U12 Team is composed of Nathan Sherman, Michael Lee,

The third TD came from Suda off Cabrera's 9-yard pass.

The Thunder went on to continue its uphill climb in the fourth quarter, launching a 16-0 run to force the first deadlock in the game, 34-all. The Thunder first got 2 points off a safety and two more TDs with the second one involving the tandem of Cabrera and Suda anew and the team completing a 2-point conversion to tie the match.

With its 28-point lead suddenly gone, the Lightning was

cording to Quinn. With Anderson out, the men's race will be an open and interesting one, especially with the minor change in the course in place.

Tomorrow's race will start and end at the Mariana Resort & Spa with bikers heading first to the Last Command Post for

pressured to deliver in the closing seconds to avoid a major collapse and Tomokane came to the rescue with the late touchdown.

The close loss was the second in as many games for the Thunder, which played the Northern Saints in the league opener last Nov. 23.

Saints 24, Thunder 14

The Saints held the Thunder scoreless in the second and third quarter to win the opener.

The Thunder made it to the

the turnaround before going north via Beach Road. Bikers will also pass the Airport Road, San Vicente, Kagman (turn at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort), Kingfisher, Talafofo, Capital Hill, and Radar Tower before returning to Mariana Resort and heading to Bird Island Lookout,

U19 Team will challenge GFA Men's League champion Quality Distributors.

Eighteen players are suiting up for the Teen Ayuyus, who will be coached by Luam Khen Ko and assistants Wai Wo Lee and Suzuki. Noetzel is also the squad's goalkeeper coach, while Mae Ito is the team manager. The CNMI U19 roster has Ethan Dickinson, Kenneth Domingo, Joel Fruit, Kennedy Izuka, Angelo Jones, Scott Kim, Thanyakorn Konkoed, Jake Lee, Oliver

Lumbad, Yoshi Mafnas, John Diego Masga, Gary Fidelino, Sean Perez, John Taisacan, Ryu Tanzawa, Terrence Belcher, Jireh Yobech, and Raphael Zapanta.

The Teen Ayuyus will be up against the 15-man lineup of Quality Distributors. The visiting team has Brett and Devin Maluwelmeng, David Manibusan, Imry Cambell, James Bush, Jan-Willem Staman, Kaito Inoue, Joshua Mendiola, Paul Long, Philip Ogo, Robby De Guzman, Scott Leon Guerrero, Valiant

Borja, Zachary Cruz, and Ryan Quitagua.

The two Guam squads will be arriving on Saipan tomorrow with Quality Distributors holding a brief training session at the Oleai pitch at 11am and the U12 team playing a friendly match against players in the CNMI U12 National Elite Academy at 4pm, also at the Oleai pitch.

Meanwhile, NMIFA is inviting the public to watch the games and support the participating squads.

2015 edition of the tournament on the island. Incidentally, 2015 marks Sanyo Shimbun's 135th anniversary.

In previous years, the Sanyo Shimbun Amateur Golf Tournament was held in Guam and Hawaii.

Guam's Leo Palace hosted the event from 2006 to 2008 before it moved to Hawaii in 2009. The U.S. territory's Mangilao Golf Club then was home for the tournament the past three years, 2010-2012.

Sanyo Shimbun is a Japanese language daily newspaper published by The Sanyo Shimbun Co., Ltd. It was founded on Jan. 4, 1879. (*Saipan Tribune*)

McCale 3, Montes 2, Gomez 2.

Fliptop 56 – Gamboa 12, Sablan 11, Camacho 10, Babauta 8, Hockett 6, Jung 6, Norita 4.

Scoring by quarters: 14-11, 35-22, 46-42, 68-56.

Second Game

Island Floral 66 – Bisana 23, Norita 11, Standish 10, Jugos 9, Teregeyo 5, Santos 4, Tabora 3, Tobias 1.

San Antonio 58 – Cadiang 21, Villanueva 11, Mungcal 8, De Guzman 5, Alegre 2, Salem 2, del Rosario 2.

Scoring by quarters: 11-13, 33-27, 52-47, 66-58.



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	8	12	.400	—
Philadelphia	7	12	.368	½
Toronto	6	11	.353	½
Brooklyn	5	13	.278	2
New York	3	13	.188	3

Southeast Division

Miami	14	4	.778	—
Washington	9	9	.500	5
Atlanta	10	10	.500	5
Charlotte	8	11	.421	6½
Orlando	6	12	.333	8

Central Division

Indiana	17	2	.895	—
Detroit	9	10	.474	8
Chicago	7	9	.438	8½
Cleveland	6	12	.333	10½
Milwaukee	3	15	.167	13½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	15	3	.833	—
Houston	13	7	.650	3
Dallas	12	8	.600	4
Memphis	9	8	.529	5½
New Orleans	9	9	.500	6

Northwest Division

Portland	16	3	.842	—
Oklahoma City	13	4	.765	2
Denver	11	7	.611	4½
Minnesota	9	10	.474	7
Utah	4	16	.200	12½

Pacific Division

L.A. Clippers	12	7	.632	—
Golden State	11	8	.579	1
Phoenix	10	9	.526	2
L.A. Lakers	9	9	.500	2½
Sacramento	4	12	.250	6½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, NMIFA technical director Johann Noetzel, Triple J Motors general manager Randy Steele, and NMIFA president Jerry Tan pose with the 2013 Hyundai Accent that the auto dealership is providing NMIFA to use for its operation as a part of their partnership deal. The car was formally turned over to NMIFA last Tuesday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Triple J Motors inks partnership with NMIFA

Triple J Motors and Northern Mariana Islands Football Association have forged a deal, making the auto dealership the vehicle sponsor of the sports group.

Under the agreement, Triple J Motors is providing NMIFA with a 2013 Hyundai Accent sedan to use for its operations for two years. Triple J Motors general manager Randy Steele formally turned over the car to NMIFA president Jerry Tan in a brief ceremony at the Oleai Sports Complex Field last Tuesday morning. NMIFA technical director Johann Noetzel was also present at the turnover ceremony.

Steele said talks about Triple J's partnership with NMIFA started after the association's vice president Vickie Izuka approached him about a vehicle sponsorship for the football group. Steele added that Triple J Motors acknowledges the impact of soccer to the youth so the deal was eventually sealed.

"I've coached youth soccer teams for four years now, so I'm very familiar with the wonderful social and athletic benefits that soccer offers to the CNMI's youth. Playing soccer is a great way for our kids to become 'a part of something' while getting valuable exercise and developing team-building skills. Also, many of my 'soccer parents' have become automotive customers of ours due to my association with the NMIFA. So the 'match' was easy, we just needed to iron out how to go about the sponsorship," Steele said.

"Triple J Motors has provided the NMIFA with a 2013 Hyundai Accent sedan to use for two years. The beautiful artwork seen on the car was designed by Triple J Creative Services of Guam while Ideal Signs of Saipan printed and installed the graphics to the car. The Accent has an EPA fuel-rating of up to 37mpg highway, is equipped with Bluetooth hands-free mobile capability, lots of standard safety features and has a trunk-space large enough for at least two big bags of soccer balls and cones," the MP United FC coach added.

Tan thanked Triple J Motors for agreeing to a sponsorship pact with NMIFA.

"On behalf of NMIFA, I would like to extend our grati-

tude and appreciation to Triple J Motors for this tremendous support. Thanks for supporting and believing the work that we do at NMIFA in developing football. I want to assure Triple J management that everyone at NMIFA is fully committed to make this community a healthier one thru playing football," Tan said.

For this part, Noetzel acknowledged Triple J Motors long-standing commitment to community service.

"Triple J Motors has been a big supporter of the community in the past and their commitment is currently exemplified by their manager Randy Steele, who is one of the most success-

ful youth coaches this season in the NMIFA U10 division. Triple J has teamed up with NMIFA as the flagship vehicle sponsor of the FA, providing a beautiful, brand new Hyundai Accent. We are very pleased to have a quality organization like Triple J Motors partner up with us to better serve the community," Noetzel said.

The NMIFA technical director added that the partnership only proved that both parties share a common goal, which is to reach out to the community.

"Football is the vehicle through which NMIFA is promoting sport, active lifestyle, responsibility, teamwork, and character building. Hyundai and Mazda are the vehicles through which Triple J Motors is promoting those same values not only with the sales/management team at the dealership, but also with their relationships to the community," Noetzel said.

Tan added that Triple J Motors's support is a big help for an association that is busy implementing programs throughout the year.

"NMIFA has a year-round program though its youth league, M-League, women's league, futsal league, beach soccer league, school league, and as well as training of various national teams for off-island competition. It is very challenging financially to operate this year-round program without the support from our various corporate sponsors. We want to thank every sponsor and hoping for their continuing support so we can continue to bring more kids to play football and be healthy," Tan said.



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Saipan Tribune Sports



32 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Late TD lifts Lightning past Thunder

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Eastern Lightning won its first game in the CFLA Youth Football Warrior/Midget League after surviving the Southern Thunder, 40-34, last Saturday at the Airport Field.

Runningback Kobe Tomokane had a touchdown on the fourth down in the last 10 seconds of the match to help the Lightning withstand the Thunder's second half rally and pull off the close victory, according to the CFLA website. Tomokane's TD was the only score of the Lightning in the fourth. They built a 20-0 lead after the first quarter before the Thunder mounted a comeback in the next three periods.

Tight end Kimo Angailen gave the Lightning its first TD off a feed from quarterback Do-

navin Ada, while Tomokane ran for the second TD for their 12-0 lead. Another running back, Jose Camacho, also recorded a TD, while wide receiver Quinton Dela Cruz made the 2-point conversion for the Lightning's big advantage.

Then in the second quarter, the Lightning opened up its offense with another 2-point conversion before the Thunder ended its silence with wide receiver Scottson Suda running for an 87-yard TD off a pass from fellow wide receiver Norman Cabrera.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

An Eastern Lightning player sacks a Southern Thunder player during their game in the CFLA Youth Football Warrior/Midget League last Saturday at the Airport Field.

'Hell' attracts more than 170 bikers



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Bikers cruise along the widened Papago Road during last year's Hell of Marianas Century Cycle Race. The 2013 edition of the 100-kilometer race will be held tomorrow.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Make way for the more than 170 bikers that will cruise around the island tomorrow during the 7th Annual Hell of Marianas Century Cycle.

Race director Kanae Quinn, in an email to *Saipan Tribune* last Thursday morning, said 174 bikers have registered for this

weekend's event and they are expecting a record field tomorrow.

"We're going to have a record turnout on Saturday for our 7th Annual HOM. Some of the pros are already on **HELL OF THE MARIANAS** joining this island as well as other racers from Russia, Korea, Japan, Guam, China, Taiwan, U.S. and Australia," Quinn said.

Australia has defending women's champion Jodie Willett, who will go for a threepeat this year against fellow pros Mieke Carey and Rose Munoz of Guam. Others pros joining this year's "Hell" are Guam's Gabe Lombard and Jonathan Martin, Japan's Atsushi Kano and Kazuhiro Yamamoto, Russia's Aleksandr

Dorovskikh, and Korea's Ka On Cho.

Besides its three pros, Guam is fielding 23 other bikers in tomorrow's race, while Japan has 10, China has six, Korea has five, Russia has four, the U.S. has three, and Saipan has a record-field of 120. A few more bikers are expected to make the registration deadline, which was

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Marianas Cup returns

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Two exciting games will be played in this Sunday when the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association brings back the Marianas Football Cup at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

The CNMI Boys U12 Team will kick off the Marianas Cup, which was last held on Saipan in 2010, when it takes on its counterpart in Guam at 1pm.

The host listed 19 players for the afternoon game with goalie Clayton Izuka leading the squad. Also on the team are Joshua Abragan, Jonathan Capayas, Cole Chambers, Joshua

De Leon, Anthony Fruit, Edwin Kim, Raffy Lee, Cody Leon, David Mafnas, Steven Martin,

Logan and Blake Mister, Alex Park, Jonah Pohl, John Tam, John Rojas, Sunjoon Tenorio, and Jon Villagomez. Jershwin Villagomez is the team's head

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

CNMI and Guam players are in action during the 2010 Marianas Cup at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. The event returns this Sunday after a two-year hiatus and will feature two games.